



Obama offers to cut corporate tax rate for jobs deal

President Barack Obama talks with Sarah Richey as he tours the Amazon fulfillment center in Chattanooga, Tenn., Tuesday, July 30, 2013. Obama came to Chattanooga to give the first in a series of policy speeches on his proposals for private sector job growth and to strengthen the manufacturing sector.

MARK LANDLER
JACKIE CALMES
 © 2013 New York Times
CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — President Barack Obama, seeking to break a stalemate with Republicans, announced here Tuesday that he would cut corporate tax rates in return for a pledge from Republicans to invest in more programs to generate middle-class jobs. Using a sea of cardboard boxes in a cavernous Amazon distribution center as a backdrop, Obama described a “grand bargain” for the middle class that he said would stimulate the economy while giving busi-

nesses the lower tax rates they have long sought. “If folks in Washington really want a ‘grand bargain,’ how about a grand bargain for middle-class jobs?” Obama said to a crowd of 2,000. “If we’re going to give businesses a better deal,” he added later, “we’re going to give workers a better deal, too.” It was the president’s first concrete proposal in an economic offensive that he inaugurated last week in Galesburg, Ill., with a speech that was meant to set his terms for a debate this fall with the Republi-

can-controlled House over fiscal issues. But only the packaging was new. Obama’s speech cobbled together two existing initiatives that have been stalled in Congress: corporate tax reform and his plan to create jobs through education, training, and public-works projects. The terms of Obama’s tax plan were outlined in early 2012 by Timothy F. Geithner, his former Treasury secretary, who said the corporate tax rate would be reduced to 28 percent, from 35 percent, with a lower rate of 25 percent for man-

ufacturing firms. While Obama presented the proposal as a concession, Republicans dismissed it even more acidly than usual, saying it was less a “grand bargain” than an effort to extract a new fiscal stimulus program while offering a cut in corporate taxes that would end up raising billions of dollars in new revenue. “It’s the opposite of a concession,” said Brendan Buck, a spokesman for House Speaker John A. Boehner.

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NOT OUT OF THE WOODS

FORT MEADE, Maryland (AP) — U.S. soldier Bradley Manning was acquitted of the most serious charge against him — aiding the enemy — but his convictions on espionage, theft and other charges in the biggest leak of classified information in U.S. history could put him in prison for up to 136 years.



Army Pfc. Bradley Manning is escorted out of a courthouse in Fort Meade, Md., Tuesday, July 30, 2013, after receiving a verdict in his court martial. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

Sentencing begins Wednesday in a case where the 25-year-old former intelligence analyst has been called both an important whistleblower and a traitor for giving more than 700,000 battle-field reports and diplomatic cables to the anti-secrecy site WikiLeaks. “We won the battle, now we need to go win the war,” his defense lawyer David Coombs, after Tuesday’s verdict, said of the sentencing ahead. “Today is a good day, but Bradley is by no means out of the fire.” Manning was convicted on 20 of 22 charges, including a guilty plea the government accepted in February. The charge of aiding the enemy had carried a potential life sentence.

Continued on page 3

Kerry: goal is Mideast peace deal in 9 months

MATTHEW LEE

AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pressing ahead in a new U.S.-backed push for Middle East peace, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators agreed Tuesday to meet again within two weeks to start substantive talks in hopes of reaching a long-elusive settlement within nine months.

Speaking after the two sides wrapped up an initial two days of talks at the State Department and visited President Barack Obama at the White House, Sec-

retary of State John Kerry said Israel and the Palestinians were committed to sustained and serious negotiations on the "core issues" that divide them. The next round will take place in either Israel or the Palestinian territories before mid-August, he said. Kerry said he was aware of the deep doubts surrounding the new peace effort and acknowledged that the road would be difficult. Yet, he said, "While I understand the skepticism, I don't share it. And I don't think we have time for it." All issues, including contentious disputes over the status of the territories and Je-

rusalem, are "on the table for negotiation, and they are on the table with one simple goal: a view to ending the conflict," Kerry said. The U.S. had already said the negotiations would continue for at least nine months — roughly until the end of April 2014 — but that had not been set as a timeframe for reaching a deal. Kerry and both sides agreed that neither would walk away from the talks or take actions that could disrupt them for that period, two senior U.S. officials said. The officials spoke on

completed, an effort that one official likened to a potential "train wreck." Kerry said that Israel, which agreed on Sunday to release more than 100 Palestinian prisoners as a goodwill gesture, would also take unspecified steps in the coming days to ease harsh living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza. The two senior officials said those measures complement a \$4 billion private sector economic program that Kerry is trying put in place to assist the Palestinians.

added that he would not comment on them now, leaving unclear the framework for the talks that he struggled for six months to get back on track.

Despite the secrecy, the broad outlines of an agreement are well known: The Palestinians want a state based on the borders, with agreed land swaps, that existed before the 1967 war in which Israel seized east Jerusalem and occupied the West Bank and Gaza. Israel wants security assurances and a recognition that it is and will remain a



Secretary of State John Kerry, left, sits across from Israel's Justice Minister and chief negotiator Tzipi Livni, third right, Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat, second right, Yitzhak Molcho, an adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, fourth right, and Mohammed Shtayyeh, aide to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, right, at an iftar dinner, which celebrates Ramadan, at the State Department in Washington, marking the resumption of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, Monday, July 29, 2013.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

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condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss diplomatic talks.

However, the officials also said they expect that the Israelis, over U.S. objections, will continue constructing housing for Jewish settlers on land claimed by the Palestinians over the course of the negotiations, an indication the Palestinians are serious about dropping their longstanding demand for a settlement freeze before returning to talks. The officials said the U.S. believes the Palestinians also will not attempt to win further international recognition as a state until a peace deal is

After Tuesday's conclusion of preliminary talks, Kerry said, "I firmly believe the leaders, the negotiators and citizens invested in this effort can make peace for one simple reason: because they must." He said, "A viable two-state solution is the only way this conflict can end. And there is not much time to achieve it."

Kerry said the negotiations, to be mediated on a day-to-day basis by his new Mideast peace envoy, Martin Indyk, would be cloaked in secrecy and that the parties had agreed that he would be the only person to comment on them. He quickly

Jewish state.

Obama laid out those parameters as U.S. policy for any negotiations in a May 2011 speech, but neither the Israelis nor the Palestinians have publicly signed off on them. The two senior U.S. officials would not say if either side had even tacitly agreed to proceed on that basis.

The main issues on the table for negotiation include security, borders, the status of Jerusalem, the fate of Palestinian refugees and water, all of which have been responsible for cratering multiple U.S.-brokered peace efforts over the past two decades. □

FARC insists on delegation for Marine release

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Colombia's largest guerrilla army reiterated its willingness to free a former U.S. Marine it has been holding captive for more than a month, but insisted on Tuesday that the government send a high-level delegation to retrieve him.

Speaking to reporters in Havana, where the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, and Colombian government negotiators have been conducting peace talks since last year, a top FARC commander said the fate of captured American citizen Kevin Scott Sutay is in the government's hands.

"We have put the ball in the government's court," said Rodrigo Granda, who has adopted the nom de guerre Ricardo Tellez. "We proposed a commission of top people."

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said last week that he would not send public figures such as leftist former Sen. Piedad Cordoba to retrieve Sutay, vowing the FARC would not be allowed to make a media spectacle out of his release. Instead he asked the guerrillas to discreetly hand Sutay over to the International Red Cross.

Sutay was taken by the guerrillas June 20 in the southern department of Guaviare, in a hotspot for Colombia's decades-old civil conflict.

The U.S. ambassador to Colombia said Sutay was not an active member of the military and was traveling through the South American nation as a private citizen.

"He is a citizen who has nothing to do with Colombia's internal conflict," Ambassador Michael McKinley said last week.

However the FARC has called him a "mercenary," and Granda on Tuesday claimed that Sutay's belongings raised suspicions about his activities in Colombia. □

McClatchy asks if the US spied on its reporter

ANDREW MIGA
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — The McClatchy news organization asked National Intelligence Director James Clapper on Tuesday whether U.S. intelligence agencies monitored mobile phone calls between a McClatchy freelance reporter and his sources in Afghanistan.

In a letter to Clapper, Anders Gyllenhaal, McClatchy's vice president of news, and Karole Morgan-Prager, vice president, corporate development and general counsel, called the allegations that U.S. intelligence agencies helped target a journalist working for a U.S. news organization "disturbing."

"Absent a well-founded, good faith belief that a journalist is engaged in terrorist activities, compiling and analyzing a journalist's metadata would violate core First Amendment principles, and U.S. law," Gyllenhaal and Morgan-Prager wrote, referring to constitutional free speech rights. They asked Clapper whether any U.S. intelligence agencies helped in the "collection, use or analysis" of any metadata from McClatchy freelancer Jon Stephenson's mobile phone while he worked in Afghanistan last year.

Metadata includes logs and timing of phone calls and lists of Internet communications, but does not include the actual contents of communications.

"We regard any targeted collection of the metadata of our journalists as a serious interference with McClatchy's constitutional rights to gather and report the news," the two McClatchy officials wrote. Clapper's office had no immediate comment late Tuesday.

Stephenson has claimed his reporting was monitored by the U.S. intelligence programs revealed by National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden on behalf of New Zealand's military. □

Obama offers to cut corporate tax rate for jobs deal

Continued from Front

For two years, Republicans have rejected most of Obama's initiatives to create jobs, in part because the president, to avoid swelling the budget deficit, has paired those ideas with proposals to re-

billion plan to put people to work repairing roads and bridges.

White House officials said Obama has previously made a cut in corporate taxes contingent on raising taxes on wealthy individuals. By presenting the corporate tax cut as a stand-alone proposal, the White

Obama had made a similar pledge last March.

White House officials said the proposal, because it would overhaul the tax code rather than simply cut rates, would raise revenue on a one-time basis by eliminating loopholes and imposing fees on companies with accumulated for-

35 percent corporate tax rate is among the highest in the industrialized world, and have contended that it undercuts the competitiveness of U.S. businesses. However, numerous tax breaks unique to the United States allow many corporations to significantly reduce or even wipe out their tax liabilities.

The choice of Amazon was meant to illustrate Obama's theme of a job revival in the United States. The company recently announced plans to hire 5,000 more workers at 17 fulfillment centers around the country, where it packs and ships customer orders. But the White House came under fire because many Amazon jobs pay only \$11 an hour, and the pace of the work in these warehouses has been described as exhausting.

On his tour of the plant, Obama stopped at stations where workers were sorting and packing bottles of Metamucil and bags of pistachio nuts. "I've got a bunch of orders in there," the president said, gesturing to a bin filled with boxes. Obama's appearance here also raised the hackles of independent booksellers, who blame Amazon for driving bookstores out of business. Amazon is the nation's biggest seller of books, and its deep discounting and massive selection has lured away many customers. □



President Barack Obama shakes hands with workers after speaking at the Amazon fulfillment center in Chattanooga, Tenn., Tuesday, July 30, 2013. Obama came to Chattanooga to give the first in a series of policy speeches on his proposals for private sector job growth and to strengthen the manufacturing sector.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

peal or reduce tax breaks for wealthy individuals and corporations, especially oil companies - which Republicans steadfastly reject.

The White House did not disclose the size of the jobs program, but in his last State of the Union address, Obama promoted a \$50

House hopes to make it more palatable to Republicans.

Republicans, however, have shunned any tax reform that is not "revenue neutral," meaning it does not add or subtract to the federal budget deficit. They insisted Tuesday that

eign earnings. Those funds, the officials said, could be used to finance the investment in jobs. Longer-term, they insisted, Obama still supported tax reform that would be revenue-neutral. Corporations and their Republican allies have long argued, correctly, that the

Manning acquitted of aiding enemy; guilty of other

Continued from Front

A charge of aiding the enemy for someone who didn't directly give an adversary information is extremely rare, and advocates for freedom of the press had warned that convicting Manning would have broad implications for other leak cases and investigative journalism about national security issues. Manning has said he leaked the material to expose the U.S. military's "bloodlust" and disregard for human life, and what he considered American

diplomatic deceit. He said he chose information he believed would not harm the United States, and he wanted to start a debate on military and foreign policy. He did not testify at his trial.

His supporters included Pentagon Papers leaker Daniel Ellsberg, who in the early 1970s spilled a secret Defense Department history of U.S. involvement in Vietnam that showed that the government repeatedly misled the public about the war. Ellsberg said Manning's acquittal on aiding the enemy was more significant than his convictions

on the other counts. He said a conviction would mean that most people wouldn't want to risk life imprisonment, or even execution — a permissible penalty under the law — for exposing government secrets. "American democracy just dodged a bullet, a possibly fatal bullet," Ellsberg said. "I'm talking about the free press that I think is the life's blood of the democracy." Prosecutors had argued that Manning knew the material would be seen by al-Qaida — a key point they needed to prove to get Manning convicted on the charge of aiding

the enemy. Even Osama bin Laden had some of the digital files at his compound in Pakistan when he was killed.

Manning's supporters believed a conviction for aiding the enemy would have a chilling effect on leakers who want to expose wrongdoing by giving information to websites and the media. A Pentagon assessment determined in August 2010 that the leaks had not compromised intelligence sources or practices, although it said the disclosures could still cause significant damage to U.S. security interests. □

White House asks Graham, McCain to travel to Egypt



Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., center, is surrounded by reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, July 30, 2013, during a roll call. Graham said on Tuesday that President Barack Obama has asked him and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. to travel to Egypt to urge the military to move ahead on elections.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

DONNA CASSATA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two U.S. senators said Tuesday that President Barack Obama has asked them to travel to Egypt next week to urge the military to move ahead on new elections. Egypt has seen deadly protests since President Mohammed Morsi was toppled in a military coup on July 3. It has threatened the \$1.5 billion in annual U.S. military and economic aid to the Arab world's most populous country.

"The president asked Sen. (John) McCain and myself to go to Egypt next week, so we're trying to find a way to get there," Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham said.

"So we can go over and reinforce in a bipartisan fashion the message that we have to move to civilian control, that the military is going to have to, you know, allow the country to have new elections and move toward an inclusive, democratic approach." McCain provided few details on the trip, but he said he and Graham would try to assist in the reconciliation process in Egypt.

"The place is in turmoil, obviously," said McCain, who lost to Obama in the 2008 election.

"We have credibility with everybody there, all the dif-

ferent factions there."

The White House declined to comment about a possible trip.

Graham said the stakes were high.

"If Egypt goes and Israel is surrounded by more and more radical regimes ... we'll regret not doing everything possible to keep Egypt on track as a stable society," he told reporters. Graham said the idea of "maybe us going if things deteriorate" in Egypt was first discussed at a July 17 meeting at the White House.

McCain and Graham sat down for nearly two hours for a wide ranging national security discussion with Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and National Security Adviser Susan Rice. Graham said the goal was to deliver a unified message that "jailing the opposition is more and more like a coup."

Last week, the Obama administration told lawmakers that it won't declare Egypt's government overthrow a coup, which would prompt the automatic suspension of assistance programs under U.S. law. The administration fears that stopping such funding could hurt programs that help to secure Israel's border and fight weapons smuggling into the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. □

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Weiner says in new ad will 'fight through tough things'

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City mayoral hopeful Anthony Weiner has released a new campaign video saying he won't quit the race.

Last week, Weiner acknowledged exchanging sexually explicit messages online after similar behavior spurred his resignation from Congress in 2011.

He says in the video that when "embarrassing" things in a person's private life become public, the person should talk about it. The one-minute video was

posted on his campaign's website Tuesday evening. Speaking directly into the camera, the former congressman addresses politicians and newspaper editors who have said he should quit.

He says they don't know New York or him and that quitting isn't what New Yorkers do, they "fight through tough things."

A new poll released Monday found Weiner's support fell from 26 percent last week to 16 percent. □

Student abandoned in cell 4 days gets \$4M

ALICIA A. CALDWELL
ELLIOT SPAGAT

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A 25-year old college student reached a \$4.1 million settlement with the U.S. government after he was abandoned in a windowless cell for more than four days without food or water, his attorneys said Tuesday. Daniel Chong said he drank his own urine to stay alive, hallucinated that agents were trying to poison him with gases through the vents, and tried to carve a farewell message to his mother in his arm.

It remained unclear how the situation occurred, and no one has been disciplined, said Eugene Iredale, an attorney for Chong. The Justice Department's inspector general is investigating.

"It sounded like it was an accident — a really, really bad, horrible accident," Chong said.

Chong was taken into custody during a drug raid and placed in the cell in April 2012 by a police officer authorized to perform Drug Enforcement Administration work.

The officer told Chong he would not be charged and said, "'Hang tight, we'll come get you in a minute,'" Iredale said.

Justice Department spokeswoman Allison Price confirmed the settlement was reached for \$4.1 million but declined to answer other questions.

The DEA didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Chong said he planned to

save and buy his parents a house.

Chong was a 23-year-old engineering student when he was at a friend's house where the DEA found 18,000 ecstasy pills, other drugs and weapons. Iredale acknowledged Chong was there to consume marijuana.

Chong and eight other people were taken into custody, but authorities decided against pursuing charges against him after questioning.

Chong said he began to hallucinate on the third day in the cell. He urinated on a metal bench so he could have something to drink. He stacked a blanket, his pants and shoes on a bench and tried to reach an overhead fire sprinkler, trying with his cuffed hands to set it off.

Chong said he accepted the possibility of death. He bit into his eyeglasses to break them and used a shard of glass to try to carve "Sorry Mom" onto his arm so he could leave something for her. He only managed to finish an "S." Chong said he slid a shoelace under the door and screamed to get attention before five or six people found him covered in his feces in the cell.

"All I wanted was my sanity," Chong said. "I wasn't making any sense."

Chong was hospitalized for five days for dehydration, kidney failure, cramps and a perforated esophagus. He lost 15 pounds (6.8 kilograms).

The DEA issued a rare public apology at the time. □



Daniel Chong at a news conference where he discussed his detention by the DEA in San Diego. The 25-year old college student reached a \$4.1 million settlement with the U.S. government after he was abandoned in a windowless cell for more than four days without food or water, Tue. July 30, 2013.

(AP Photo/U-T San Diego, K.C. Alfred)

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Smoke diverts New York flight

ALBANY, New York (AP) — An American Eagle flight from New York City to Montreal has made a safe emergency landing in New York state after smoke was reported in the cockpit and cabin.

Albany International Airport spokesman Doug Myers says Flight 3364 crew reported an odor and smoke. The plane was cleared for the emergency

landing Tuesday evening. The 39 passengers and crew members were taken off the plane. There were no injuries.

Airport fire and safety crews are trying to determine the cause of the smoke.

American Airlines says it's sending another plane to take the passengers to Montreal.

American is owned by AMR Corp. □

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Appeals court rules against Bloomberg beverage rules

E.C. GOGOLAK

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NEW YORK - An appeals court on Tuesday unanimously upheld a decision striking down New York City's restrictions on the

out.

The court, the First Department of the Appellate Division of State Supreme Court in Manhattan, concurred with a lower court's ruling that the city's Board

that the various exceptions and carve-outs in the rule demonstrated that the board was concerned with matters beyond its core mission to improve public health.

Justice Dianne T. Renwick wrote. The board, the decision stated, "violated the state principle of separation of powers."

Seeking to reduce runaway obesity rates, the rule was announced by Bloomberg last May and approved by the health panel in September. The measure would have prohibited the sale of many sweetened drinks in containers larger than 16 ounces, but the appeals court wrote that the rule was laden with confusing loopholes and exemptions. Only establishments that received inspection grades from the city's health department, including movie theaters and stadium concession stands, would have been subject to the ban. Those with self-service drink fountains, like most fast-food restaurants, would be prohibited from stocking cups larger than 16 ounces. Meanwhile, vending machines and some newsstands would be exempt, along with convenience stores. The signature 64-ounce Big Gulp at 7-Eleven would escape the soda ban unscathed.

The rule also would not have affected fruit juices, dairy-based beverages like

milkshakes and mixed coffee drinks, no-calorie diet sodas or alcoholic beverages.

Opposition to the limitations has been vocal, as city business owners and consumers deemed the rule and its loopholes unworkable and unenforceable. These concerns were voiced by Justice Milton A. Tingling of State Supreme Court in March, when he struck down the soda ban a day before it was scheduled to go into effect, calling the restrictions "arbitrary and capricious" and an overreach of the Board of Health's power. Tingling said the City Council would have to approve such a measure.

The argument against the ban has raised intriguing questions about the power held by the health panel, which has traditionally enjoyed a broad purview; the board has placed restrictions on lead paint and prohibited trans fats in food at city restaurants. The Bloomberg administration has argued that the city's unchecked obesity epidemic should be similarly categorized as a broad and serious public health matter. □



New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg eats a hot dog during the official weigh-in for the Nathan's Fourth of July hot dog eating contest, Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at City Hall park in New York. An appeals court on Tuesday unanimously upheld a decision striking down New York City's restrictions on the sale of large, sugary drinks, a signature proposal of Mayor Bloomberg.

(AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)





sale of large, sugary drinks, dealing a serious blow to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's hopes of reviving the rule before his term runs

of Health, appointed by the mayor, overstepped its bounds as a nonlegislative body by approving the rule. The justices also said

"Such mechanism necessarily looks beyond health concerns, in that it manipulates choices to try to change consumer norms,"

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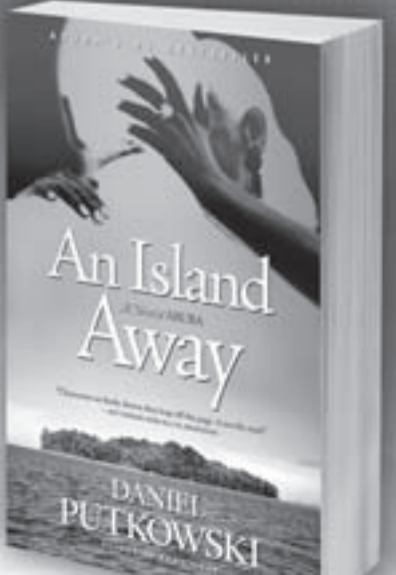





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US Financial Front:

Better economic growth likely to follow weak Q2

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy is expected to have grown at a dismal pace in the April-June quarter, weighed down by large tax increases and steep government spending cuts.

But the second quarter should be the low point for the year, economists say. The fiscal drag is expected to fade. At the same time, steady hiring, more business spending and a solid recovery in housing should push growth higher in the second half of the year.

Economists forecast that growth slowed in the April-June quarter to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of just 1 percent, according to a survey by FactSet. That's below the tepid rate of 1.8 percent in the January-March quarter.

The Commerce Department will release the first estimate of gross domestic product, or GDP, for the second quarter at 8:30 a.m. EDT (1230 GMT) Wednesday. GDP is the broadest measure of the output of goods and services, including everything from manicures to industrial machinery. Most economists say growth is already starting to pick up. And many are predicting annual growth rates of between 2 percent and 3 percent in the third and fourth quarters. There are threats to the better outlook. Unemployment is still high at 7.6 percent, limiting consumer spending. And budget fights in Washington could lead to a government shut-down this fall, potentially disrupting the economy. Still, recent data have been encouraging.

"More and more of the

economic tea leaves are pointing in the same direction: toward a growth revival ahead," Scott Anderson, chief economist at the Bank of the West, said.

Home construction, sales and prices have been growing since early last year. Americans purchased newly built homes in June at the fastest pace in five years. That's raised builder confidence to a seven-year high, which should lead to increases in construction and more jobs. Overall hiring has accelerated this year. Employers have added an average of 202,000 jobs a month from January through June. That's up from 180,000 in the previous six months. And business spending has started to increase. Companies have ordered more industrial machinery and other equipment for four months in a row. As those orders are filled, factory production should increase.

Manufacturing is also benefiting from strong auto sales, which topped 7.8 million in the first six months of 2013, the best first-half total since 2007. Analysts expect sales will stay strong for the rest of the year.

Federal Reserve officials have forecast better growth in the second half of the year. And Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke has said that the central bank could begin to scale back its bond purchases later this year if the economy strengthens. But Fed officials typically put greater weight on employment and inflation data than the GDP figures. The Fed concludes a two-day policy meeting on Wednesday, at which point it could clarify its interest-rate policies. □



A woman manufactures Nike running shoes at a US plant. The government issues its third and final estimate of economic growth in the January-March quarter, Wednesday, June 26, 2013. (AP Photo)

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JORGE SAINZ
Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — The driver was on the phone with a colleague and apparently looking at a document as his train barreled ahead at 95 mph (153 kph) — almost twice the speed limit. Suddenly, a notorious curve was upon him.

He hit the brakes too late. The train, carrying 218 passengers in eight carriages, hurtled off the tracks and slammed into a concrete wall, killing 79 people.

On Tuesday, investigators looking into the crash announced their preliminary findings from analysis of the train's data-recording "black boxes," suggesting that human error appears to be the cause of Spain's worst railway disaster in decades.

The derailment occurred near Santiago de Compostela, a city in northwestern Spain, late last Wednesday. Some 66 people injured in the crash are still hospitalized, 15 of them in critical condition.

The accident cast a pall over the city, which is the last stop for the faithful who make it to the end of the El Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route that has drawn Christians since the Middle Ages. The crash occurred on the eve of annual festivities at the shrine, which subsequently were canceled.

The disaster also stunned the rest of Spain, with Spanish royals and political leaders joining hundreds of people in Santiago de Compostela's storied 12th-century cathedral Monday evening to mourn the dead.

According to the investigation so far, train driver Francisco Jose Garzon Amo received a call from

an official of national rail company Renfe on his work phone in the cabin, not his personal cellphone, to tell him what approach to take toward his final destination.

The Renfe employee on the telephone "appears to be a controller," a person who organizes train traffic across the rail network, said a statement from a court in Santiago de Compostela,

The train had been going as fast as 119 mph (192 kph) shortly before the derailment, and the driver activated the brakes "seconds before the crash," according to the statement. The speed limit on the section of track where the crash happened was 50 mph (80 kph).

Authorities have said that a high-tech automatic braking program called

any technical failures" contributed to the accident. She spoke on condition of anonymity because court regulations bar her from identifying herself by name.

Garzon was provisionally charged Sunday with multiple counts of negligent homicide. He was not sent to jail or required to post bail because none of the parties involved felt there



Police stand guard as train driver Francisco Jose Garzon Amo, center, leaves the court following his release in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, Sunday, July 28, 2013. The driver of a Spanish train that derailed at high speed killing 79 people has been provisionally charged with multiple cases of negligent homicide.
(AP Photo/Lalo R. Villar)

where the investigation is based. "From the contents of the conversation and from the background noise it seems that the driver (was) consulting a plan or similar paper document." The statement on the preliminary findings did not indicate whether such a phone conversation is common between a driver of a moving train and a controller, and it did not say how long the call lasted. It did not name the Renfe official who called the driver, nor did it further describe what plan or document the driver was consulting.

the European Rail Traffic Management System was installed on most of the high-speed track leading from Madrid north to Santiago de Compostela — the route Garzon's train took. But the cutting-edge coverage stops just 5 kilometers (3 miles) south of where the crash occurred, placing a greater burden on the driver to take charge. The Spanish rail company has said the brakes should have been applied four kilometers (2.5 miles) before the train hit the curve. A court spokeswoman told The Associated Press that the boxes "did not indicate

was a risk of him fleeing or attempting to destroy evidence, according to a court statement. Investigators from the court, forensic police experts, the Ministry of Transport and Renfe examined the contents of the two black boxes recovered from the lead and rear cars of the train. But the investigation is ongoing and could last several more weeks. The next steps include measuring the wheels on the cars and examining the locomotive, the statement said, without providing an explanation for those checks. □

Al-Qaida claims responsibility for Iraq bombings

SINAN SALAHEDDIN
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Al-Qaida's branch in Iraq claimed responsibility Tuesday for a wave of bombings across the country, as shootings and explosions into the night killed at least 12 people.

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, the al-Qaida affiliate in Iraq, took credit for attacks Monday that killed at least 58 people on a website commonly used by Sunni extremists. The authenticity of the statement could not be independently verified, but its style was consistent with earlier al-Qaida statements.

The blasts on Monday — 18 in all — were the latest in a surge of bloodshed that has swept across Iraq since April, killing more than 3,000 people and worsening the already strained ties between Iraq's Sunni minority and the Shiite-led government. In July alone, nearly 700 people have been killed in insurgent attacks, according to an Associated Press count.

The scale and pace of the violence have fanned fears of a return to the widespread sectarian bloodletting that pushed Iraq to the brink of civil war after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Al-Qaida's Iraqi branch and other Sunni insurgent groups have targeted the country's security forces in a bid to undermine faith in the Shiite-led government and to stir up sectarian tensions. But the group has grown emboldened in recent months following a government crackdown on Sunni protests calling for better treatment by the state. □



Pakistan: President elected after jailbreak underscores threats



Abdul Malik, left, chief minister of Pakistan's Baluchistan province casts his vote for the presidential election at the provincial assembly in Quetta, Pakistan, Tuesday, July 30, 2013. Pakistani lawmakers elected a textile businessman who briefly served as the governor of southern Sindh province as the country's next president Tuesday, the election commission chief said, a result that was widely expected. (AP Photo/Arshad Butt)

DECLAN WALSH

© 2013 New York Times

LONDON - The troubling gap between politics and governance in Pakistan came into stark relief on Tuesday, when lawmakers elected the country's 12th president just hours after

Taliban militants shot their way into a major jail, freeing about 250 prisoners. As predicted, Mamnoon Hussain, a little-known textiles magnate from Karachi and a loyalist of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, won the presidential vote in the na-

tional and provincial legislatures. He will take over from President Asif Ali Zardari, a contentious figure who is due to step down on Sept. 8. The election was another important democratic step in a country that has seen

four military coups since the 1950s, the most recent in 1999.

It confirmed Sharif, whose party emerged victorious from May's general election, as the most powerful civilian leader.

But away from the democratic process lay sobering reminders that Taliban insurgents, not power-hungry generals, now present the most pressing challenge to state authority in Pakistan. In the northwest, heavily armed militants mounted an audacious jailbreak just before midnight on Monday at a century-old prison at Dera Ismail Khan. The site is just outside the tribal belt, where the majority of CIA drone strikes have taken place.

Up to 150 fighters, armed with guns and grenade launchers, blew holes in the perimeter wall, the police said. Some fighters were disguised as policemen, while others wore suicide-bomb vests.

As they stormed the building, breaking open cells, the attackers used a megaphone to call out names of specific prisoners and cried, "God is great" and "Long live the Taliban," security officials said.

The provincial authorities said the escaped prisoners included 25 militants with the Taliban and Lashkar-e-Taiba, a sectarian militant group that has killed hundreds of minority Shiites this year. □

Italy: Shorter ban sought for Berlusconi

FRANCES D'EMILIO

Associated Press

ROME (AP) — A prosecutor on Tuesday pressed Italy's top criminal court to uphold Silvio Berlusconi's tax fraud conviction, but recommended shortening his ban on holding public office.

The media mogul's defense team will have one final chance on Wednesday to try to convince the Court of Cassation to throw out the conviction by a lower-level appeals court. The tensely-awaited decision could have an impact on the fragile coalition of Premier Enrico Letta, since

his center-left party depends on Berlusconi's conservatives for survival. Berlusconi's conviction in a case of film rights sales involving his Mediaset media empire carried a four-year term in prison as well as the ban on the former three-time premier and current senator on holding any elected or appointed public office for the next five years. If Berlusconi fails to have the guilty verdict trial overturned — or at least win a new trial — it will be the first definitive conviction after a raft of cases over the last two decades that either ended in ac-

quittals or saw statutes of limitations expire.

Prosecutor Antonello Mura insisted the lower appellate court treated Berlusconi fairly. He cited several instances where the court in Milan allowed Berlusconi to legitimately skip hearings because of official duties such as Cabinet meetings. Mura methodically hammered away at his points for more than four hours Tuesday afternoon, leaving many in the packed, stifling-hot courtroom slumped back in their seats and some on the five-judge panel checking their watches occasionally. □





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Nigeria: 24 die in blasts in Kano's Christian area

IBRAHIM GARBA
MICHELLE FAUL
Associated Press

KANO, Nigeria (AP) — Multiple explosions at a bar and entertainment area in a Christian quarter of Nigeria's northern and mainly Muslim city of Kano killed at least 24 people, a hospital official said Tuesday.

Lt. Ikedichi Iweha, a spokesman for the Military Joint Task Force, said earlier Tuesday that 12 people died at the scene and "a couple" of people were wounded in Monday night's attack, which he blamed on suspected members of the Islamic extremist Boko Haram network.

But the spokesman for Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital said its mortuary had 24 bodies brought from the scene and another hospital. The teaching hospital also was treating nine people wounded in the blasts, said spokesman Aminu Inuwa.

Another 11 victims were being treated at Murtala Muhammad Specialists Hospital.

Printer Ezekiel Alade, 47,

said he heard "a deafening sound" and was injured by two of the blasts. "A sharp object pierced through my left hand and blood gushed out," he said. "Then, another bomb exploded and, before I could escape, another object pierced into my leg."



People gather at the site of an explosion at Sabon gari in Kano, Nigeria. Tuesday, July. 30, 2013. Multiple explosions at a bar and entertainment area in a Christian quarter of Nigeria's northern and mainly Muslim city of Kano killed at least 24 people, a hospital official said Tuesday.

(AP Photo/ Muhammed Giginyu)

He was trying to crawl to safety when a soldier saved him.

Kano state Gov. Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso visited Alade and other victims Tuesday. He described the

explosions as "an attack on Nigeria because Muslims and Christians" and people of various tribes all lost their lives or were injured. More than 100 people gathered outside the Aminu Kano hospital morgue, weeping and screaming in anguish Tuesday afternoon. Military

officials would not allow them into the morgue, so many said they have no idea if missing loved ones are dead or alive.

Nigeria is fighting an uprising by Islamic extremists

based mainly in the northeast, where the government has declared a state of emergency. Kano city and state are in the northwest and not part of that emergency.

Boko Haram, which means "Western education is forbidden," wants to impose Islamic law in all of Nigeria. With more than 160 million people, Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation, and it is divided almost equally between Christians who live mainly in the south and Muslims who dominate the north. Nigeria's army announced Tuesday it has arrested 42 suspected Boko Haram members in the southwestern states of Ogun and Lagos, which includes the commercial capital of the same name. Maj. Gen. Obi Umahi told reporters that some of those detained already have admitted to belonging to the extremist network. He said some said they had fled from strongholds in the northeast of the country that are under a state of emergency and military operations.

Boko Haram has never attacked targets in the southwest of the country.

Umahi said some suspects were arrested in Lagos on upscale Victoria Island's Bar Beach and in the Lekki neighborhood. The arrests were made between July 12 and 23.

That raises fears that the military operations have forced militants into other states where they could attack.

Monday night's attack at just after 9 p.m. (21:00 GMT) rocked an area popular for its outdoor bars, blaring music, snooker tables and table tennis.

Witness Kolade Ade said at least one blast appeared to come from a Mercedes-Benz parked beside the bar.

"After the first bomb, I threw myself into the canal (drain) to hide. There were at least three blasts," he said.

But Lt. Iweha said in a statement that the explosions were not the work of a suicide bomber but of parcels of explosives planted in the area.

"This latest incidence could have been avoided if citizens maintain vigilance to observe when packages are dropped, as it was in this case," he said. □




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Venezuelans charged in shooting of U.S. officials

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Venezuela's chief prosecutor's office says two men have been charged in the shooting of two U.S. Embassy employees inside a Caracas strip club in May. The office identifies the defendants in a press release posted online Tuesday as Carlos Mejias and Windy Fabiani. It says both were charged with attempted murder in the May 28 shooting of Paul Marwin and Robert Rosas.

U.S. officials said at the time that the embassy employees worked in the military attaché's office and neither suffered life-threatening wounds. Neither was identified by name.

The release says several shots were fired at the Americans and indicates Mejias as the alleged shooter. He is also charged with illegal weapons possession. Police said at the time that the shooting took place following a brawl. □

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Egypt crisis continues as Morsi meets with Ashton



Interim Vice President Mohamed ElBaradei makes remarks at a joint news conference with EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton, left, at the presidential palace in Cairo, Egypt, Tuesday, July 30, 2013. The European Union's top diplomat said Tuesday that deposed Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi is "well" and that the two had a "friendly, open and very frank" discussion about the country's political crisis and the need to move forward. (AP Photo/Egyptian Presidency)

SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's military gave the ousted president his first contact with the outside world since removing him from office, allowing Europe's top diplomat Tuesday to meet with Mohammed Morsi in his secret detention. She emerged from her two-hour talks with him urging all sides to move on toward a peaceful transition. Despite the military's gesture, two days of efforts by the EU's Catherine Ashton to find a solution to Egypt's crisis hit a brick wall. Some voices in the military-backed government, including Vice President Mohammed ElBaradei, have arisen hoping to avert a se-

curity crackdown on Morsi's supporters, but neither side has budged in their positions, which leave no visible room for compromise. Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood and his Islamist allies say the only solution is for Egypt's first freely elected president to be restored to office, and they have vowed to continue their street rallies until that happens. Tuesday evening, they held new marches in Cairo outside the military intelligence offices, and in other cities around the country. The military and interim government, in turn, have rejected releasing Morsi or other detained Brotherhood leaders, a step the Europeans have called for and that Islamists

have said could improve the atmosphere. Instead, they appear determined to prosecute detained Brotherhood members for crimes purportedly committed during Morsi's presidency and for violence after his fall. Looming over the deadlock is the possibility of security forces acting to clear the main pro-Morsi sit-in in Cairo, where a crowd of his supporters have been camped out for nearly a month — a move that would almost certainly bring bloodshed. Ashton, the EU foreign policy chief, was invited by several parties in the standoff, including ElBaradei, in

what appeared to be a last ditch attempt to use her good offices with the Brotherhood to find a way to avert a showdown. The invite came after at least 80 protesters, mostly Morsi supporters, were killed Saturday in clashes with security forces in one of the worst single crackdowns on a protest in Egypt's nearly three years of turbulence. U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel spoke by phone with the head of Egypt's military, Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, on Tuesday to "urge restraint by Egyptian security forces in dealing with ongoing protests," the Defense Depart-

ment said. Secretary of State John Kerry also spoke to Ashton by phone and backed her call for an "inclusive political process." Ashton gave the first outsider's look on the situation of Morsi, who remains at the center of the standoff. Morsi has been held incommunicado in unknown locations by the military since he was ousted on July 3. Ashton said she was able to see the facilities where Morsi is being held, but she does not know his location. Local media said she flew to see him in a military helicopter, and EU officials said she was not blindfolded. □

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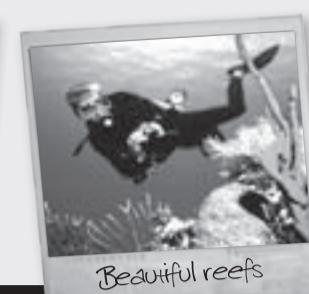
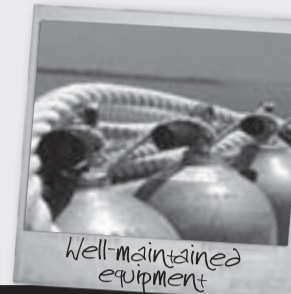
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Ex-FIFA official Warner wins election in Trinidad

TONY FRASER
Associated Press
PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad
(AP) — Former international soccer official Jack Warner has made a political comeback in the Caribbean nation of Trinidad & Tobago a few months after a

gations stemming from his tenure as a longtime soccer power broker. At the time, he also served as the country's national security minister. Warner thanked a crowd of cheering supporters late Monday after the re-

tions office shows Warner with 12,631 votes. Ameen of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar's United National Congress won 5,126 votes, according to the preliminary tally.

"Thank you for this resounding victory," Warner told celebrating supporters at the headquarters of the Independent Liberal Party that he founded earlier this year to help keep his political career afloat.

Warner resigned as national security minister and parliamentarian for Chaguanas West on April 21 after an ethics panel from the Confederation of North and Central American and Caribbean Football accused him of fraudulently managing the body running soccer in the region, an allegation he has denied.

Warner is also a former FIFA vice president who was implicated in a bribery scandal while opposing group president Sepp Blatter's re-election two years ago.

In April, Warner claimed FIFA gifted him \$6 million toward an athletics training center in Trinidad to gain Caribbean support for Blatter's first election as president of the soccer federation in 1998.

He claimed it was part of a deal in May 1998 with then-FIFA President Joao Havelange.

FIFA has declined to comment in detail "on any allegations made by Jack

Warner."

Warner's political revival in Trinidad was met with a subdued response by Persad-Bissessar. The country's leader was once a staunch political ally of Warner's but she blasted him during the by-election campaign and insisted that he had to answer questions about the corruption allegations in the soccer group's report.

"This is just one battle in many, many more to come," Persad-Bissessar said after the preliminary tally was announced.

It was not clear whether Persad-Bissessar's government would try to bring Warner's party into the ruling coalition.

"We offered before the election and were spurned," Warner told a local television station on Tuesday.

"It will not be up to me to offer again but rather the interim executive of the party and we will meet on Thursday or Friday to discuss that possibility."

On Tuesday, opposition leader Keith Rowley painted the by-election result as a "damaging blow" for Persad-Bissessar's government and called for fresh elections.

Persad-Bissessar's coalition government still controls 27 of the 41 parliamentary seats in Trinidad & Tobago, a leading supplier of natural gas just off Venezuela's coast. □



Suspended FIFA executive Jack Warner gestures during a news conference in Port-of-Spain, in his native Trinidad and Tobago. Preliminary results from a by-election show that Warner easily won back a seat in Parliament. (AP Photo/Shirley Bahadur)

regional sports group's ethics panel accused him of enriching himself through fraud.

Preliminary results from a by-election show that Warner easily won back a seat in Parliament just over three months after he was forced to resign from the Trinidadian government because of corruption alle-

gations showed he received more than twice as many votes as ruling party candidate Khadijah Ameen to reclaim the seat of Chaguanas West. The district is a fast-growing community in central Trinidad where Warner was first elected as parliamentarian in the 1990s.

Figures from the elec-

nival of Flowers." One man also died when he fell off a float. Haitian President Michel Martelly revived the "Carnival of Flowers" last year so the capital of Port-au-Prince could have its own Carnival-like party. His

administration has moved February's Carnival fete to cities outside the capital in the hopes of developing the countryside.

The "Carnival of Flowers" began Sunday and drew tens of thousands of rev-

elers to downtown Port-au-Prince. Many people painted their faces bright colors and wore flowing costumes as they marched through the streets.

The final day of the festival is Tuesday. □

Cool reception for US celebrity chefs in Haiti

TRENTON DANIEL
Associated Press
KENSCOFF, Haiti (AP) — Two celebrity chefs from the U.S. got a cool reception in Haiti Tuesday as the mayor of a town outside the capital blocked them from trying to tour a farmers market.

Aaron Sanchez and John Besh had arrived in the Caribbean nation as guests from the aid group Oxfam America to help raise awareness about food issues. But Widjmy Clesca, the mayor of the mountain town of Kenscoff, stopped the chefs and the journalists accompanying them from entering.

The mayor said the photographers couldn't enter the market because they might take photos that would be unflattering for the town. People at the market shut the metal gate at the entrance, and one man waved his hand for Associated Press journalists to stop filming as they tried to interview Besh.

The chefs opted to leave and went with their hosts to visit a community organization that works with local farmers. But the mayor's office called ahead and said that the visit hadn't been approved, said Pierre Paul Jules, the coordinator of a group calling itself Solidarity for the Rural Development of Kenscoff. "It's unfortunate," Sanchez told The Associated Press. "If Haiti wants to continue to grow, they have to let outsiders in a little bit." Added Sanchez: "It was a little intense, man." The two chefs arrived in Haiti on Sunday. They've toured one of the homeless settlements that sprung up in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake and met with farmers in the countryside and capital. □

Haiti police: 183 hurt in fights at Carnival fete

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti
(AP) — A summer Carnival-like celebration in Haiti has turned violent. Haitian police spokesman Gary Desrosiers says 183 people were injured in street fights on the first day of the "Car-



PWA FUERTEVENTURA:

Sarah-Quita Offringa, Jose 'Gollito' Estredo reign supreme!



By ESTHER WILLIAMS

FUERTEVENTURA, SPAIN - Fuerteventura once again showed why it is one of the world's most renowned locations as it produced six out of seven days of wind. Over the duration of the week winds between 20-30 knots greeted the competitors allowing two double eliminations to be completed, as some of the most radical moves in the world were thrown left, right and centre. By the end of the PWA Fuerteventura World Cup Jose 'Gollito' Estredo (Fanatic / North) and Sarah-Quita Offringa (Starboard / Gaastra / Mystic / Maui Ultra Fins) were crowned the King and Queen of Sotavento, as they finished the week unbeaten after delivering an outstanding display of sailing.

MEN'S FREESTYLE: In the opening elimination of the week Tonky Frans (Tabou / Gaastra) fought his way into the first winners' final of the week where he met the reigning world champion - Jose 'Gollito' Estredo.

The first final saw terrific conditions as small stunt ramps rolled into the event area combined with strong winds to ensure an amazing spectacle took place. Frans landed an amazing pasko as well as an exqui-



site air chachoo, but Estredo had an answer for everything as he produced an even bigger and more radical pasko and air chachoo of his own, whilst also launching into an amazing spock into culo and an astonishing backloop to take the opening victory. Steven Van Broeckhoven (JP / NeilPryde / Different) finished the single elimina-

tion in third place as he successfully defeated Kiri Thode (Starboard / Gaastra) in the losers' final. Meanwhile, Adrien Bosson (Fanatic / North / Maui Ultra Fins) achieved his best ever finish in an elimina-

tion - as did Rick Jendrusch (Starboard / Severne / Mystic) as they finished joint fifth and ninth respectively in the first single elimination. In the opening double elimination Gollito came out on top again, but this time against a different opponent in the form of Kiri Thode, who fought his way back from fourth place in the single elimina-

tion by first holding off the challenge of Dieter Van Der Eyken (Starboard / Severne) and then defeating Van Broeckhoven and Tonky Frans. However, despite his best efforts - which saw Thode land skopu 360s and a ridiculous culo into spock - Estredo proved a step too far on this occasion as the judges opted for the greater power and height from Gollito.

Elsewhere in double elimination one seventeen-year-old Amado Vrieswijk (Starboard / Severne) achieved his best finish to date after finishing joint seventh with Youp Schmit (JP / NeilPryde). Vrieswijk took his biggest scalp so far as he overcame fellow Bonaire man Taty Frans (Starboard / MauiSails / Mystic / Maui Ultra Fins) in heat forty-five. Vrieswijk demonstrated exactly what he can do as he landed stunning kabikuchis and skopu-

Kiri Thode. The two sailors went blow-for-blow with each other in the final once more as they landed perfect spock-culos, huge regular konos and burners. The heat was in the balance until Thode flamed a pasko, this presented the reigning world champion with an opportunity to move into a clear lead and he made no mistake as he landed an amazing trademark pasko. The Bonairean did respond with an amazing kabikuchi, but Gollito had an answer for everything as he rotated his way through a super quick skopu and a huge toad to secure another victory.

The second, and final, double elimination of the week was completed on the penultimate day of the contest as Jose 'Gollito' Estredo completed the event with a perfect record of four victories from four. The reigning world champion's



and massive air flakas. The young Bonairean also finished seventh overall - his first top ten finish - to cap an impressive week.

Day five of the event saw the second single elimination completed in 25-30 knots of wind, but the outcome didn't change with Jose 'Gollito' Estredo extending his unbeaten run with another victory over

unbeaten record now stretches back to April 2012 when he won in Austria to prove his is the undoubted King of Freestyle. The winners' final this time around though was agonizingly close, with Thode pushing Gollito to the verge of defeat.

Continued on page 14

US Forward Operating Location Supports Local Vacation School

CURACAO - Volunteers from the U.S. Forward Operating Location (USFOL) donated 90 hours in support of the annual Vacation Bible School that was held in Fuik at Fundashon Amigunan di Cristo in July. FOL members helped set up the classrooms, prepared materials, and built castle walls out of cardboard. During the event, they provided water and served as helpers for the 250 children who took part in the classes. The men and women of the FOL often donate their time to community projects like this in order to give back and to show appreciation for the hospitality they have received from the citizens of Curacao. □



PWA FUERTEVENTURA

Continued from page 13

As he so often does though Estredo dug deep and pulled out an amazing no-handed burner and an incredible backloop to take the final victory of the week - and more importantly the event title - by way of a 3:2 decision from the judges, leaving Thode to settle for second place overall. Steven Van Broeckhoven successfully secured his spot on the podium as he defeated Tonky Frans once more. The Belgian maestro landed amazing paskos, shuvit spocks and massive burners to claim his place in the illustrious top three and Frans narrowly missed out in fourth place. Dieter Van Der (Starboard / Severne) showed his full repertoire of moves through the week and this combined with his amazing consistency saw him finish fifth overall with Phil Soltysiak (Starboard / Sailworks) just behind him in sixth place.

WOMEN'S FREESTYLE:

Five-time PWA Freestyle World Champion Sarah-Quita Offringa also completed the week unbeaten - just like Gollito - as she marched to another impressive victory on the PWA World Tour. The Aruban gem faced Arrianne Aukes (RRD / Simmer / Maui Ultra Fins) in each of the four winners' finals and each time Offringa produced the goods to claim her familiar place at the top of the podium. Offringa demonstrated her amazingly high level time and time again as she landed perfect burners and regular konos combined with powerful shakas and air funnels, to win the judges' approval. Aukes also landed some excellent moves such as smooth funnels and big flakas, but she couldn't quite do enough to defeat Offringa. Aukes will leave the event extremely happy though as she achieved her best ever result as she finished in second place overall. Yoli de Brendt (Fanatic

/ North) won the battle for third place after she came out on top of her relentless battle with Olya Raskina (JP / NeilPryde). de Brendt landed superb shakas, flakas and punetas to see off the Russian, who finished in fourth place.

Oda Johanne Brodholt (Maui Ultra Fins) - who was making her debut on the PWA World Tour - finished in equal fifth place with Maxime Van Gent (Fanatic / North / Maui Ultra Fins). The Norwegian impressed particularly with her stylish switch konos.

Where's Next on the PWA World Tour

From the 3rd until the 9th of August the wave sailors will be returning to action as they head to the rocky shores of Tenerife. Make sure you tune into www.pwaworldtour.com to follow the action live and to see who will come out on top.

Overall Results Men's Freestyle:

- 1st Jose 'Gollito' Estredo (Fanatic / North)
- 2nd Kiri Thode (Starboard / Gastra)
- 3rd Steven Van Broeckhoven (JP / NeilPryde / Different)
- 4th Tonky Frans (Tabou / Gastra)
- 5th Dieter Van Der Eyken (Starboard / Severne)
- 6th Phil Soltysiak (Starboard / Sailworks)
- 7th Taty Frans (Starboard / MauiSails / Mystic / Maui Ultra Fins)
- 7th Youp Schmit (JP / NeilPryde)
- 7th Amado Vrieswijk (Starboard / Severne)
- 10th Anthony Ruenes (Tabou / Gastra)

Overall Results Women's Freestyle:

- 1st Sarah-Quita Offringa (Starboard / Gastra / Mystic / Chris Benz / Maui Ultra Fins)
 - 2nd Arrianne Aukes (RRD / Simmer / Maui Ultra Fins)
 - 3rd Yoli de Brendt (Fanatic / North)
 - 4th Olya Raskina (JP / NeilPryde)
 - 5th Maxime Van Gent (Fanatic / North / Maui Ultra Fins)
 - 5th Oda Johanne Brodholt (Maui Ultra Fins)
- (Photos courtesy of PWA World Tour) □

Beauty

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ORANJESTAD, Aruba – July 17th 2013: Aruba Bank is introducing its new, chipped Maestro Card, which will provide more security and convenience when used by clients in Aruba and/or abroad. Various countries around the world have already introduced Maestro cards with a security chip, and now Aruba is following this global technological development.

The chip displayed in the Aruba Bank Maestro Card contains a microprocessor, and the card also bears the familiar magnetic stripe, which is compatible with all existing ATM and pin systems. The chipped Maestro Card can now be used in all countries around the globe which have al-

ready introduced similar chip processors and magnetic stripes into their banking systems.

All of Aruba Bank's clients who own a Maestro Card will receive a chipped Maestro Card via the mail. New clients who want to apply for a chipped Aruba Bank Maestro Card may fill in an application for the card via the bank's website www.arubabank.com, or visit any of the Aruba Bank branches located around the island. The new card is free of charge and is simply another service designed to provide more security and more convenience when Aruba Bank's clients buy purchases and services.

As it is introducing the new design of the chipped Maestro Card, Aruba Bank is also giving a donation to the local Foundation for the Mentally Handicapped, on

behalf of all its clients who use their new card during the month of August, 2013. For one month, for each purchase made by clients which exceeds Afl. 100, Aruba Bank will make a donation of Afl. 0.25 to the Foundation for the Mentally Handicapped, an organization which does great work on behalf of people with special needs.

The foundation will use the donation to contribute to various affiliated organizations. Donations will be made on payments made at businesses through the POS systems, and are not applicable on cash withdrawals from an ATM.

The new chipped Aruba Bank Maestro Card is very easy to activate. Clients may use the included instructions on how to activate their card. After you receive your card, you can use it at any ATM or



any POS terminal in a store. Your pin number will not change when you receive your new card. After you have completed the transaction your new card will be activated and your old card will automatically be deactivated. Aruba Bank advises all of its clients to cut their old card in two, since they will no longer be able to use it.

The chipped Aruba Bank Maestro Card works at all ATM machines, in the same way that the old cards did.

When using the card in stores and other businesses, instead of swiping the card, the client or cashier will be asked to insert the card in the POS machine. The card will remain in the machine until the transaction is complete. For more information, visit the bank's website at www.arubabank.com.

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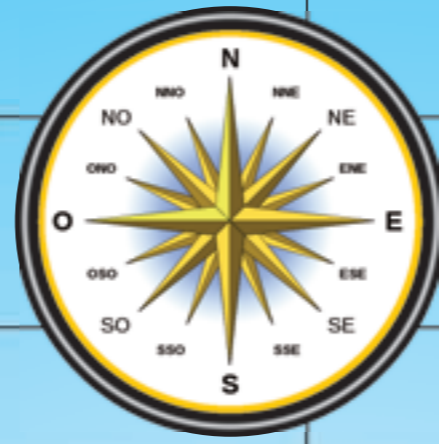
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AL Capsules

Giambi's pinch-hit homer gives Indians 3-2 win

CLEVELAND (AP) — Pinch-hitter Jason Giambi homered over the center field wall leading off the ninth inning to give the Cleveland Indians their fifth straight victory, 3-2 over the Chicago White Sox on Monday night.

Giambi, batting for struggling Mark Reynolds, belted a 1-1 pitch from Ramon Troncoso (1-3) high over the wall and into the bushes in center.

It was the 436th career homer and ninth career walk-off shot for the slugger, who had a bucket of water dumped over his head by teammates after the game.

Chris Perez (3-1) pitched the ninth, allowing a two-out triple to Dayan Viciedo. He got out of the inning when left fielder Michael Brantley made a nice catch for the third out.

The Indians moved within 2 1-2 games of the idle Detroit Tigers in the AL Central. The sinking White Sox have lost four straight and 10 of 13.

RAYS 2, RED SOX 1

BOSTON (AP) — David Price allowed just two hits over 7 1-3 innings to beat Boston for the second time in six days as Tampa Bay reclaimed first place in the AL East.

Price (6-5) was dominating in the makeup game before it was delayed for 39 minutes because of



Cleveland Indians' Jason Giambi watches his ball after hitting a solo home run off Chicago White Sox relief pitcher Ramon Troncoso in the ninth inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 29, 2013, in Cleveland. The Indians won 3-2.

a brief downpour in the middle of the eighth. The Rays left-hander stayed in the game, but retired just one batter — after starting him out with three straight balls — before Joel Peralta relieved him.

Fernando Rodney pitched the ninth for his 26th save. He gave up a single to Jacoby Ellsbury, walked David Ortiz and threw a wild pitch before Mike Napoli struck out on a 3-2 changeup to end it.

Felix Doubront (7-5) allowed two runs on eight hits in five innings for the Red Sox.

ATHLETICS 9, BLUE JAYS 4

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Yoenis Cespedes homered and hit a two-run triple, Josh Reddick added a two-run double and had three RBIs, and Oakland beat Toronto.

Jed Lowrie singled home a run and Josh Reddick hit a sacrifice fly in Oakland's four-run first inning. Cespedes led off the eighth with his 16th home run, snapping a career-worst 25-game homerless streak for the Home Run Derby champion.

Edwin Encarnacion hit a two-run homer, while Adam Lind and Brett Lawrie each hit solo shots against A.J. Griffin (10-7), who retired the first 13 batters of the game.

Associated Press

Continued on page 20

'Ossie' Schectman dies, scored NBA's first basket

TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

Oscar "Ossie" Schectman, the former New York Knicks guard who scored the first basket in NBA history, died Tuesday. He was 94.

Schectman's son Peter confirmed his father's death, which was also announced by the

Knicks. Peter says his dad died of complications from respiratory failure.

Schectman scored the opening basket of a game in what was then known as the BAA on Nov. 1, 1946 for the Knicks against the Toronto Huskies.

Commissioner David Stern said Tuesday in a

statement that Schectman was a "pioneer."

The commissioner says, "Playing for the New York Knickerbockers in the 1946-47 season, Ossie scored the league's first basket, which placed him permanently in the annals of NBA history. On behalf of the entire NBA family, our condolences go out to Ossie's family." □

Best in MLS prepared to play Italian club AS Roma

DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Kansas (AP)

— Serie A club AS Roma will be taking on the best that Major League Soccer has to offer in the league's annual All-Star game on Wednesday night at Sporting Park.

Roma's side will include longstanding captain Francesco Totti and American midfielder Michael Bradley, who got his start in professional footballer as an 18-year-old for what would eventually become the New York Red Bulls.

"For me and my teammates, for Roma, it's the first time we've played a match against a team like MLS," Totti said through a translator.

"We're happy we've been invited for this match, and of course, very happy to see Michael play against some of his good friends." It will clearly be a special

night for the American, the son of former U.S. national team coach Bob Bradley. "For me, I grew up with the MLS.

I was nine years old when the league began," Bradley said this week, "so for me to have an opportunity to come back to my home country and play against the MLS All-Star team, it's going to be a great night." Totti will be facing some familiar faces, too.

One of the players in the MLS squad is Red Bulls forward Thierry Henry, the former Arsenal star who helped lead France to the World Cup final in 2006. Henry's team finally ran into the Azzurri of Totti and lost 5-3 in a dramatic penalty shootout.

That was payback time from 2000, when Henry's France beat Totti's Italy 2-1 in the final of the European Championship.

"When you think about



Toronto FC's Jeremy Hall (25) fights for the ball against New York Red Bulls' Thierry Henry during the second half of an MLS soccer game Saturday, July 20, 2013, in Toronto. Associated Press

Roma, you think about Francesco Totti," Henry said.

"I have maximum respect for him to stay with the same team throughout his

career, the team he supported as a boy. We could be here and talk about Francesco Totti all day."

The current format of the All-Star game, featuring

an international opponent, was adopted more than a decade ago.

Last year, the MLS side beat Premier League club Chelsea. □

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NL Capsules

Liriano, Pirates crush Cardinals 9-2

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Francisco Liriano allowed one run over seven dominant innings, Pedro Alvarez hit his NL-leading 27th home run and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the St. Louis Cardinals 9-2 Monday night.

Liriano (11-4) struck out eight and walked just two to win his fifth straight start. The Pirates kicked off the key series at PNC Park by sending the Cardinals to their fourth straight loss to pull within a half-game of the lead in the NL Central. Clint Barmes doubled twice and drove in two runs for Pittsburgh. Andrew McCutchen added two hits and an RBI.

Jake Westbrook (7-5) continued to struggle against the Pirates. He fell to 1-8 against Pittsburgh in his career after surrendering four first-inning runs. Matt Carpenter and Shane Robinson hit RBI singles for St. Louis, which has scored just four runs during its longest losing streak of the season.

BRAVES 9, ROCKIES 8, 10 INNINGS

ATLANTA (AP) — Andrelton Simmons drove in Dan Uggla from first base with a triple off Edgmer Escalona in the 10th inning, and Atlanta won its fourth straight game.

After Uggla led off with a walk, Simmons hit the ball too deep into the gap in left-center field for Carlos Gonzalez and Dexter Fowler to keep it from reaching the wall.

Scott Downs (1-0) earned the win after being acquired in a trade with the Los Angeles Angels earlier in the day and arriving at Turner Field not long before the first pitch.



Pittsburgh Pirates' Pedro Alvarez (24) hits a three-run home run off St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Jake Westbrook (35) during the first inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Monday, July 29, 2013.

Associated Press

The left-hander allowed one hit and struck out one in 1 1-3 innings.

Escalona (1-4) allowed one hit, one run and one walk in 12 pitches.

Gonzalez went 5 for 5 with two RBIs after missing the last three games with a sprained middle right finger. He drove in the tying run in the ninth off Jordan Walden.

PADRES 2, REDS 1

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Chris Denorfia hit a two-run, pinch-hit homer off Aroldis Chapman in the bottom of the ninth inning for the Padres.

Chapman (3-4) walked leadoff batter Yonder Alonso on a 3-2 pitch, then Denorfia drove a 98 mph first-pitch offering from Chapman over the center-field fence 423 feet away to deal the Reds their fourth straight loss.

Luke Gregerson (5-5) pitched the ninth for the win.

METS 6, MARLINS 5

MIAMI (AP) — Ike Davis had a go-ahead RBI double in a three-run seventh inning, Daniel Murphy drove in three runs, and New York snapped a five-game skid against Miami.

David Aardsma (2-0) pitched an inning in relief of Jeremy Hefner for the win. Bobby Parnell retired Giancarlo Stanton with runners on first and third to end it for his 21st save in 25 opportunities.

Jeff Mathis drove in two runs for Miami. Miami's Jacob Turner was in line for the win when he was pulled with a 5-3 lead after 6 1-3 innings. But Miami relievers Mike Dunn and A.J. Ramos (3-4) struggled to get out of the

seventh as the Mets scored three runs.

BREWERS 5, CUBS 0

CHICAGO (AP) — Carlos Gomez broke a scoreless tie in the ninth inning with

an RBI single and Jeff Bianchi added a two-run double to lift Milwaukee over Chicago.

The Brewers, sitting in last place in the NL Central, won for the third time in eight games and ended the Cubs' winning streak at three games.

Brewers reliever Brandon Kintzler (3-0) pitched a scoreless eighth for the victory.

Cubs reliever Pedro Strop (1-1) gave up the single to Gomez on an 0-2 pitch and Jean Segura easily scored from second to give the Brewers a 1-0 lead.

With one out and the bases loaded, Bianchi gave the Brewers insurance with a double to right to score two more runs and Rickie Weeks also added a two-run double as Milwaukee batted around in the ninth. In other NL games it was Milwaukee 5, Chicago Cubs 0; NY Mets 6, Florida 5; San Diego 2, Cincinnati 1; Atlanta 9, Colorado 8 in 10 innings; and Pittsburgh 9, St. Louis 2. □

Al Capsules

Continued from page 18

Esmil Rogers (3-5) was tagged for eight runs — six earned — on nine hits in 4 1-3 innings.

RANGERS 4, ANGELS 3

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Geovany Soto hit a game-ending homer after A.J. Pierzynski went deep to tie the game earlier in the ninth off closer Ernesto Frieri, and Texas snapped a four-game skid.

Pierzynski led off by pulling a pitch into the right-field seats, his 11th homer this season which snapped a

4-for-27 slump. Nelson Cruz followed with a single off Frieri (0-3) before David Murphy grounded into a double play.

Soto, who entered the game hitting only .198 this season, then hit a towering flyball to left that easily cleared the wall.

Jason Frasor (1-2) pitched a scoreless ninth for Texas, three days after he gave up a game-ending homer in an 11-inning loss at Cleveland.

In other AL games it was Texas 4, LA Angels 3, Oakland; Tampa Bay 2, Boston 1; and Cleveland 3, Chicago White Sox 2. □

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Katie Ledecky crushes WR in 1500 free at world

PAUL NEWBERRY
AP National Writer

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)

— American teenager Katie Ledecky smashed the world record in the 1,500 freestyle for her second gold medal at the world swimming championships on Tuesday.

Looking stronger at the end of the grueling race than she did at the beginning, the 16-year-old obliterated the world record in the 1,500-meter freestyle by more than 6 seconds Tuesday night for her second gold medal at the world swimming championships.

"She's absolutely fit," marveled Mereia Belmonte of Spain, who finished far back in fourth. "Impressive. She's probably made in the same factory as Michael Phelps."

Fellow American Missy Franklin picked up her second gold medal, as well.

Cruising through a demanding double, the 18-year-old star of the London Olympics easily won the 100 backstroke, then returned about an hour later to post the second-fastest time in the semifinals of the 200 free.

"It's tough but it's fun," Franklin said. "I'm super happy with my 100 back. It really got me pumped up for the 200 free."

It was a good night for the Americans after they failed to win gold the previous day.

Matt Grevers and David Plummer went 1-2 in the 100 backstroke for the third U.S. victory of the session. Conor Dwyer picked up a silver behind France's Yannick Agnel in the 200 free, and Jessica Hardy chipped in with a bronze in the 100 breaststroke won by Lithuania's Ruta Meilutyte.

The only disappointment



Katie Ledecky of the United States celebrates after winning the gold medal in the Women's 1500m freestyle final at the FINA Swimming World Championships in Barcelona, Spain, Tuesday, July 30, 2013. Ledecky set a new world record of 15:36.53.
Associated Press

for the U.S. was Ryan Lochte, who labored to a fourth-place finish in the 200 free.

"It wasn't my night," the three-time Olympian said. "But I have to put it behind me because I still have many races to swim."

He hopes to compete in seven events in Barcelona, despite not being able to train as much as usual this year while taking part in his reality television show, "What Would Ryan Lochte Do?"

No such concerns for Ledecky, who is clearly in top form. She went stroke for stroke much of the race with defending world champion Lotte Friis, the Danish swimmer slightly ahead and both well under the world-record pace set by Kate Ziegler in 2007. Ledecky edged out front at the 1,300 mark and began to pull away, touching in 15 minutes, 36.53 seconds. A woman ran through the crowd with a blue flag that proclaimed "World Re-

cord" — Ziegler's mark of 15:42.54 never standing a chance.

Friis also went under the old record, 15:38.88, but it was only good enough for silver. New Zealand's Lauren Boyle took the bronze.

"Around the last 200, I knew I could take off," Ledecky said.

The 1,500 is a non-Olympic event — the longest women's race at the Summer Games is the 800 — but that made the achievement no less impressive. Ledecky looks even stronger than she did last year while winning Olympic gold in the 800 free, a stunning breakthrough for someone barely known on the international stage.

"It was really tough, my hardest race ever," Ledecky said. "I knew we were going pretty fast and I figured that whoever was going to come out on top was probably going to get the world record. So I just had to be careful not to push it too early or push it

too late and just touch the wall first."

Franklin breezed to victory in the 100 back in 58.42 seconds. After capturing four golds and a bronze at the London Olympics, the recent high school graduate is trying to join Phelps as the only swimmers to win eight events at a major championship. She is now 2 for 2 at the Palau Sant Jordi, adding to her gold in the 4x100 free relay.

Australia's Emily Seebohm was next in 59.06, with the bronze medal going to Japan's Aya Terakawa in 59.23.

After the medal ceremony, Franklin hustled off to get ready for the 200 free semifinals. She only just qualified for the final of that event in London, and was edged out for a bronze medal by one-hundredth of a second.

Franklin has spent much of the past year working to improve her freestyle, and the results showed in the semis. Franklin easily

qualified for the final with the second-fastest time, 1:56.05, trailing only world-record holder Federica Pellegrini of Italy.

"Hopefully I will keep the momentum going," Franklin said. "Hopefully Team USA will, too. We've had an absolutely incredible evening, and I'm so proud of all my teammates."

Agnel blew away the field — Lochte included — in the men's 200 free.

The big Frenchman pushed the pace right from the start and never let up. He touched in 1:44.20, a full body length ahead of the field, setting off another wild celebration from the large French contingent in the crowd.

The Americans did pick up a medal, but not necessarily from the swimmer they expected. Dwyer, a friend and former training partner of Phelps, took the silver in 1:45.32. Danila Izotov of Russia claimed bronze in 1:45.59.

Lochte missed a spot on the podium by 0.05.

Agnel is a training partner of Dwyer's, having moved recently to the North Baltimore Aquatic Club to work with Phelps' longtime coach, Bob Bowman.

"I am so surprised," said Agnel, the reigning Olympic champion. "I did not expect such a result."

Meilutyte just missed the world record she set the previous night in the semifinals of the 100 breast, winning in 1:04.42. Russia's Yuliya Efimova was next in 1:05.02, while Hardy — the former world-record holder — pulled out a bronze in 1:05.52. "Maybe the excitement and wanting to win altered my stroke," Meilutyte said. "I was dying toward the end of it. There's still things to improve, which is great." □

Personal Health:

Unraveling enigma of eczema to treat it

JANE E. BRODY

© 2013 New York Times

Summer is both a blessing and curse for millions of people afflicted with a common chronic skin condition called eczema. The dry, red and usually intolerably itchy patches often recede when the air is warm and damp and skin is exposed more often to sunlight.

Yet, for many of the 15 million Americans with eczema, shedding clothes may be embarrassing and, in the case of children, may result in teasing and exclusion. Even for those who are comfortable in a bathing suit, swimming in a pool can be problematic if sensitivity to chlorine worsens the condition.

In industrialized countries, eczema has become two or three times more common in recent decades. Only part of this rise can be attributed to better diagnosis. Now 15 to 30 percent of children and 2 to 10 percent of adults have eczema, which nearly always begins in the first five years of life. Fortunately, in more than two-thirds of children with eczema, the condition resolves on its own before adolescence.

The medical name for eczema is atopic dermatitis, which reflects the immunological nature of the condition. It is more common among children living in cities than those in rural areas. According to the so-called hygiene hypothesis, exposure to infectious agents early in life offers protection against allergic diseases. The more hygienic a child's environment, the greater the risk.

Eczema is not contagious, but more than one member of a family may be afflicted.

The condition seems to have a genetic component. In identical twins, 77 percent will both have eczema, but it occurs in both fraternal twins only 15 percent of the time. My sons, who are identical twins, had eczema as young children, and one still has it in his 40s.

Another indication is the fact that people with celiac disease (a gluten intolerance) are three times more likely to have eczema; relatives of celiac patients are twice as likely to have eczema.

Eczema is often called "the itch you can't scratch," although a wiser description would be "the itch you shouldn't scratch." Scratching can make the lesions worse and expose the skin to infection.

Although there is no known cure for eczema, flare-ups can nearly always be

mental allergens (like those from pollen, dust mites and food) to enter. The result is dry, itchy, inflamed patches that are sometimes misdiagnosed as psoriasis.

Eczematous skin also lacks normal amounts of a natural antimicrobial agent called cathelicidin, leaving it susceptible to infections that can be hard to control. More than 90 percent of people with eczema have colonies of the bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus* growing on their skin and contributing to the skin's allergic sensitivity and inflam-

the "tight junctions" between skin cells become leaky and permeable to environmental allergens and infectious agents. If future studies confirm these findings, developing treatments that strengthen this barrier should improve control of eczema.

Current treatment focuses on reducing inflammation, loss of moisture and colonization by bacteria. Doctors typically recommend a prescription steroid, used topically in tiny amounts, coupled with an over-the-counter moisturizer applied



New discoveries shed light on a skin condition, eczema, that afflicts 15 million Americans.
(Scott Bakal/The New York Times)

minimized and sometimes prevented, and recent research has identified factors involved in its development that may lead to new treatments to control it more effectively.

Normal skin provides a remarkably effective physical and chemical barrier to substances in the environment. It also prevents substances that should remain in the body from escaping. As Dr. Thomas Bieber, a dermatologist at the University of Bonn in Germany, explained in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, the hallmark of eczema is an alteration in the skin that allows essential water to escape and environ-

ment, Bieber reported. Scratching the lesions enhances the ability of these bacteria to further disrupt the skin's barrier function.

While it has long been known that the skin's outermost layer functions poorly in people with eczema, researchers at the University of Rochester have identified another reason eczematous skin is susceptible to invasion by allergens. Dr. Anna De Benedetto and co-authors showed that a protective protein called claudin-1 is significantly weakened in the skin of eczema patients but not in those with normal skin or other skin conditions.

When claudin-1 is reduced,

generously right after showering to hold water in the skin.

Only mild, nondrying bath soaps should be used. Overly expensive and exotic skin products are not necessary, according to Dr. Lisa A. Beck, a dermatologist at the University of Rochester.

But finding the most helpful products may require trial and error. For example, my son tried several steroids before finding that mometasone furoate, the generic version of Elocon, is most effective for him. He has also used coal tar-based shampoo, like Neutrogena T/Gel, for occasional eczema on his scalp. □

FDA increases warnings on anti malaria drugs

KATIE THOMAS

© 2013 New York Times

The Food and Drug Administration announced this week that a commonly used anti-malaria drug must carry the so-called black box warning on its label because of the danger that the drug could cause serious neurological and psychiatric side effects, some of which can become permanent.

The drug, mefloquine hydrochloride - better known by its brand name, Lariam - has long been known to cause side effects that include ringing in the ears, depression and hallucinations.

The announcement Monday clarified that some of the symptoms, like dizziness and loss of balance, could become permanent.

And some of the psychiatric symptoms, the agency said, could persist for months or even years after a patient ceases taking the drug.

A black box warning is reserved for drugs whose side effects are considered the most severe.

The agency warned patients and caregivers to be alert for these side effects and to stop use of the drug if a patient develops neurological or psychiatric symptoms.

Mefloquine was developed by the U.S. Army, and it entered the commercial market in 1989. Roche, the brand-name manufacturer, no longer sells Lariam in the United States, but generic versions are available.

For years, the drug was favored by travelers not only because of its effectiveness but also because it could be taken once a week, rather than once a day, said Dr. David O. Freedman, director of the travelers' clinic at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

As warnings on its label steadily increased in severity over the past decade, Freedman said, his clinic shifted to other drugs. □

Students to explore filmmaking with Google Glass

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Beauty is in the eye of the Google Glass wearer.

At least that's what the Internet search giant hopes a handful of young filmmakers will discover. Google is enlisting film students from five colleges to help it explore how its wearable computing device can be used to make movies.

The \$1,500 Google Glass headset is already being used by 10,000 so-called explorers. The device resembles a pair of glasses and allows users to take pictures, shoot video, search the Internet, compose email and check schedules.

As part of its experiment, Google will lend each school three pairs of Google Glass.

The participating schools are American Film Institute, California Institute of the Arts, Rhode Island School of Design, University of California, Los Angeles, and University of Southern California.

Google Inc. says it plans to share an update of how students are progressing sometime after school resumes in the fall.

The company says the schools will explore how to use Glass for documentary filmmaking, character development, location-based storytelling and "things we haven't yet considered."

Norman Hollyn, a professor



Google co-founder Sergey Brin demonstrates Google's new Glass, the wearable internet glasses shown at the Google I/O conference in San Francisco, June 27, 2012. Associated Press

at the USC School of Cinematic Arts, said students will be encouraged to use Glass to tell stories incorporating the first-person point of view.

He said one model that students might follow is one explored in the film, "Timecode," by director Mike Figgis, which uses four cameras to capture four different people simultaneously. Students will also be encouraged to try to use Glass's data overlays as a way of revealing elements

of a story. At least two short films are expected to be done by the beginning of next year, he said.

"We're kind of looking at it as, 'How can we push this to tell stories rather than just sit on a cool Disneyland ride and broadcast that out to people?'" he said. "This excited us in a lot of ways."

Glass users can shoot video in "720p" high-definition quality by issuing voice or touch commands.

Google has already shown

off a few examples of how people are using the device, such as tennis pro Bethanie Mattek-Sands preparing for Wimbledon and physics teacher An-

drew Vanden Heuvel taking his class on a virtual field trip to the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research. □



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Waiting for Bernanke, stocks plod indecisively

CHRISTINA REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks wandered between the tiniest of gains and losses before closing mixed Tuesday.

Traders were indecisive as companies reported disparate earnings news, and many were disinclined to make any big moves before getting direction from the Federal Reserve, which is scheduled to release an updated policy statement Wednesday.

The calendar said late July, but on the stock exchange it seemed more like August, when many traders take off for vacation and fewer stocks trade hands. The Dow Jones industrial average rose as much as 72 points in early trading — less than 0.5 percent — before flickering lower. It dipped into the red for most of the afternoon and closed down 1.38 points, or 0.01 percent, at 15,520.59.

"It seems like the doldrums of summer have set in," said Dave Abate, senior wealth adviser at Strategic Wealth Partners in Seven Hills, Ohio.

The Nasdaq composite rose 17.33 points, or 0.5 percent, to 3,616.47, though even that gain was largely because Apple, its biggest component, was up more than 1 percent.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index plodded just a fraction higher, up 0.63 point,

or 0.04 percent, to 1,685.96. Three of its industry sectors rose, led by technology stocks. Seven fell, dragged down by telecommunications companies. Company earnings were

and troubling on others. Many companies, including big names like Apple and Visa, have posted better-than-expected results, and analysts predict that second-quarter earn-

Abate said.

Outside of earnings reports, traders were keeping a close eye on the Federal Reserve, which began a two-day meeting Tuesday and will release an

Fed might pull back on its bond-buying program or start raising interest rates. The central bank has been buying bonds to try to prop up stocks and encourage borrowing. It has also been keeping interest rates low, all in an attempt to pump life into a lagging economy.

"This week it's all about Bernanke and the Fed statement," said Bill Strazullo, chief strategist of Bell Curve Trading. "Stocks need a supportive statement ... to go higher. That is the key driver."

The Fed has said it might start to pull back on its bond purchases later this year if the economy continues to improve, but the timing remains uncertain. The Fed has also said it won't raise its benchmark short-term interest rate until the unemployment rate, which currently stands at 7.6 percent, dips below 6.5 percent.

Crude oil fell \$1.47 to \$103.08 a barrel in New York. The price of gold inched down \$4.80 to \$1,324.80 an ounce. The dollar rose against the Japanese yen and fell against the euro.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note was unchanged from late Monday at 2.60 percent. The yield is a benchmark for many kinds of loans including home mortgages. Among stocks making big moves:

—Coach dipped \$4.55 to \$53.30. Goodyear jumped \$1.52 to \$18.56.

—The Mosaic Co., maker of a key ingredient in crop fertilizers, was the worst performer on the S&P 500. It plunged after a Russian fertilizer company said it would drop out of a cartel that keeps prices high. Mosaic fell \$9.15, or 17 percent, to \$43.81.

—Masco jumped \$1.06, or 5 percent, to \$20.80. The company, which makes cabinets, plumbing fixtures and other building products, posted better-than-expected earnings late Monday, boosted by a surge in home construction. □



Trader John Santiago works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday, July 30, 2013. Stocks moved sideways on Tuesday as investors waited for the Fed's latest report due out Wednesday.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

equally inconclusive. Coach, the maker of up-scale handbags, slumped 8 percent after reporting lower quarterly profit. But Goodyear Tire & Rubber jumped 9 percent after announcing that its quarterly earnings had doubled.

This earnings season has presented a picture encouraging on some fronts

ings are up 4.7 percent for companies in the S&P 500, according to S&P Capital IQ. But the picture has its blemishes, including the fact that many of the gains are based not on business growth but on cost-cutting: Revenue is down about 0.5 percent.

"There's a little bit of swapping chairs on the deck,"

updated policy statement Wednesday.

Conjectures about the central bank have had a powerful influence on the stock market in recent months. Traders have bought and sold stocks while hanging on to every word of Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, looking for clues about when the

Amgen 2Q net dips on higher research, other costs

LINDA A. JOHNSON

AP Business Writer

Amgen Inc. said Tuesday that its second-quarter profit dipped 1 percent as higher spending on research, production and other items offset rising sales of its medicines. Still, the world's biggest biotech drugmaker soared above Wall Street expectations. The maker of osteoporosis drug Prolia and Enbrel for rheumatoid arthritis and skin disorders said second-quarter net income was \$1.26 billion, or \$1.65 per share, down from \$1.27 billion, or \$1.61 per share, a

year earlier.

Excluding one-time items, Amgen said adjusted net income was \$1.44 billion, or \$1.89 per share, well above the \$1.74 analysts were expecting.

Thousand Oaks, California-based Amgen said revenue rose 5 percent to \$4.68 billion. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected \$4.49 billion.

Amgen's stock fell \$1.80, or 1.6 percent, to \$109.40 in after-hours trading, giving back most of the \$1.83 it gained during the regular trading session.

"We saw solid product

trends during the second quarter and are carrying good momentum into the second half," CEO Robert A. Bradway said in a statement.

"We continue to make excellent progress with our pipeline of innovative" experimental drugs.

Sales were led Neulasta and Neupogen, for fighting infection in cancer patients, with their combined sales up 7 percent to \$1.44 billion. Enbrel sales jumped 9 percent to \$1.16 billion, but sales of anemia drug Aranesp slipped 2 percent to \$524 million.

Two newer drugs, Prolia and Xgeva for preventing skeletal damage from solid tumors, saw their combined sales jump 46 percent, to \$437 million. They contain the same active ingredient, but at different doses.

Amgen raised its 2013 profit forecast to \$7.30 to \$7.45 per share, from the \$7.05 to \$7.35 per share it predicted in April.

It also tweaked its revenue forecast, saying it now expects "the upper end" of its January forecast of \$17.8 billion to \$18.2 billion in sales for the full year. □

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Pfizer keeps 2013 outlook

LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

Pfizer's second-quarter net income more than quadrupled, helped by the sale of its animal health business and a gain from settling litigation.

The world's second-largest drugmaker beat Wall Street's earnings expectations, though revenue continued to decline due to expired patents on former blockbuster drugs that once brought Pfizer sales of well over \$1 billion a year. Meanwhile, just a day after Pfizer announced it will reorganize into three businesses starting in January, analysts peppered company executives on a conference call with questions about how soon it could split up into multiple companies. Pfizer said that would take at least three years, but it hasn't decided to do so.

The company noted unfavorable exchange rates cut revenue by 3 percent. Worse yet, Pfizer said growth is slowing in emerging markets such as China and India.

The company now expects that revenue to climb in 2013 by only a mid-single-digit percentage, down from prior forecasts of high-single-digits. That's worrying because the pharmaceutical industry has pinned most hopes for future growth on those countries, as western governments continue to try to rein in prices. "The emerging markets did not grow as fast as we expected," Pfizer CEO Ian Read told The Associated Press in an interview. "This is in part due to some slowing up of purchases and some pricing pressure" by governments in emerging markets. □

Chrysler's 2Q net income up 16 pct on US sales

DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Chrysler is having some growing pains.

America's third-largest automaker said Tuesday that its sales picked up in the second quarter thanks to strong U.S. demand for trucks and SUVs. But the company cut its target for full-year sales and profit, blaming persistent problems as it adds more shifts and ramps up production of vehicles like the Ram pickup and the Jeep Cherokee small SUV.

"You need to remember that in 2010 we produced 1 million cars. We're now at two-and-a-half times that level," Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said in a conference call with analysts and media.

Marchionne said making sure Chrysler has enough parts from suppliers has been a problem. It's also working out the bugs in new components. Engineers are still making adjustments to the Cherokee's new nine-speed transmission, for example, even though the first Cherokees began rolling off the line in June.

Chrysler is also adding more workers, like the second shift of 1,100 people who will start making Cherokees next month and the 1,250 people who will start making transmissions in Ko-



A new 2011 Dodge Caliber Mainstreet is shown to a customer at a Chrysler dealership in Burlingame, Calif. Chrysler said Tuesday that its sales picked up in the second quarter thanks to strong U.S. demand for trucks and SUVs.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

komo, Indiana, early next year. Chrysler isn't the only automaker who has had problems ramping up production. Ford Motor Co. delayed the launch of the new Lincoln MKZ sedan this spring because of production and quality issues.

But Marchionne said Chrysler is unusual because it's

updating so many products and parts at once. He also says Chrysler had a lot of catching up to do when its majority owner, Italian carmaker Fiat SpA, brought it out of bankrupt-

cy four years ago.

"The insistence on quality that was introduced with the new Chrysler back in 2009 is forcing a level of scrutiny that is certainly unusual for Chrysler historically," Marchionne said. Chrysler's first-quarter sales suffered because it was slow to release new ver-

sions of the Ram pickup and Jeep Grand Cherokee SUV, two of its most popular vehicles.

Those production issues were resolved by the second quarter. U.S. Ram sales rose 30.4 percent over last year as construction companies and other small businesses raced to replace aging trucks. It was the Ram's best second quarter since 2007. Grand Cherokee sales soared 27 percent.

Chrysler sold 643,000 vehicles worldwide in the second quarter, up 10 percent from a year ago. Sales were also up 10 percent in the U.S., where Chrysler sells 75 percent of its vehicles. Chrysler's U.S. sales rose faster than the industry average of 8 percent in the second quarter.

Still, because it lost first quarter sales and will be slow to launch the new Cherokee, Chrysler doesn't expect to meet the targets it set at the beginning of this year. The Auburn Hills, Michigan-based company now expects to ship 2.6 million vehicles worldwide in 2013, at the low end of its goal of between 2.6 million and 2.7 million. □

Stock prices of fertilizer companies hammered

JOSHUA FREED
AP Business Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Share prices of nutrient companies were demolished Tuesday as investors reacted to news that a big Russian fertilizer company would stop cooperating in a pricing cartel.

The move is likely to slash prices for the fertilizer potash. Investors worried that it will slash profits for potash companies, too.

The Mosaic Co. saw its shares fall almost 25 per-

cent before recovering slightly. Canada's Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan Inc. was down 23 percent. The declines wiped more than \$13 billion from the stock market values of six large publicly traded potash companies.

Potash is a major fertilizer, used by farmers worldwide. It has been selling for almost \$400 per ton. Some analysts believe the price could fall below \$300 now. The Belarusian Potash Company sells potash

made by JSC Belaruskali and Russian mining company Uralkali. The two of them accounted for some 26 percent of the world's potash trade this year, according to Citi. The effect was that two of the world's largest potash suppliers controlled enough of the market to have a significant influence on prices. That's all changing now. Instead of limiting production and keeping prices higher, Uralkali says it will max out its production and

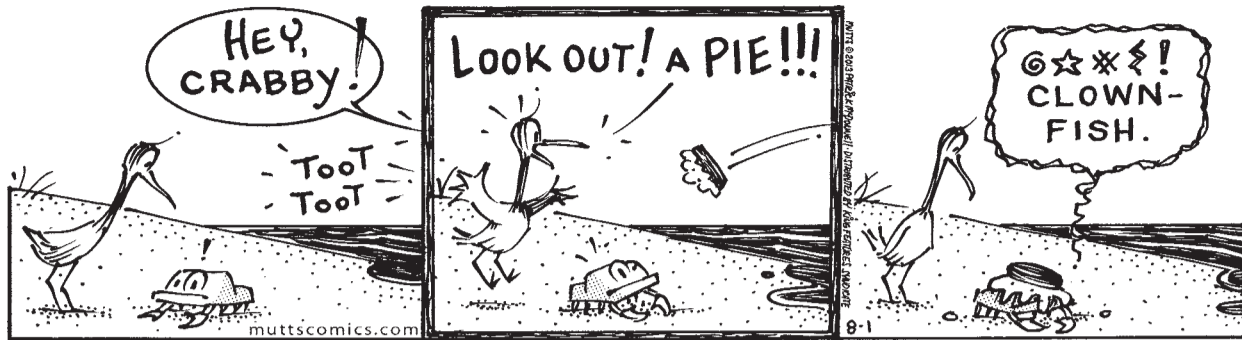
sell at spot prices.

"Uralkali has started a price war," Citi analyst Andrew Benson wrote.

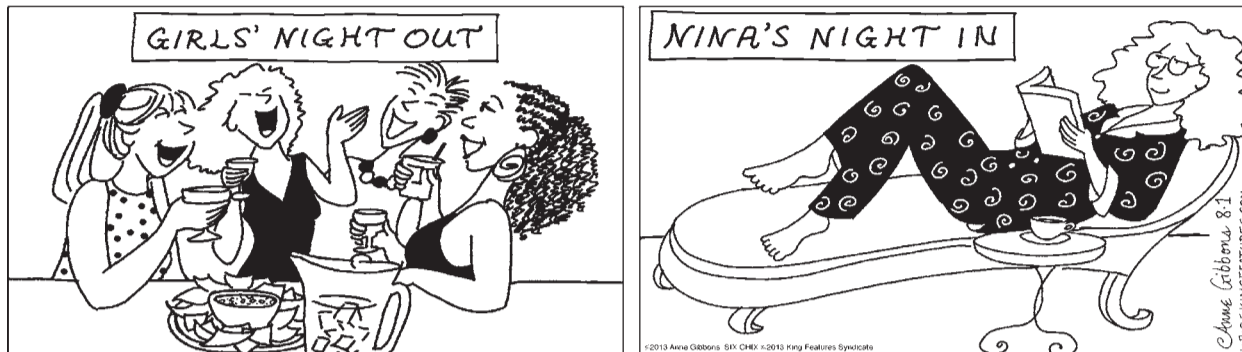
The company is talking about selling potash for \$300 per ton, he wrote, which "could lead to a significant upturn in demand in 2014."

In the meantime, though, the changes "imply a substantially poorer profit outlook" for the rest of this year and 2014 than investors had previously expected, he wrote. □

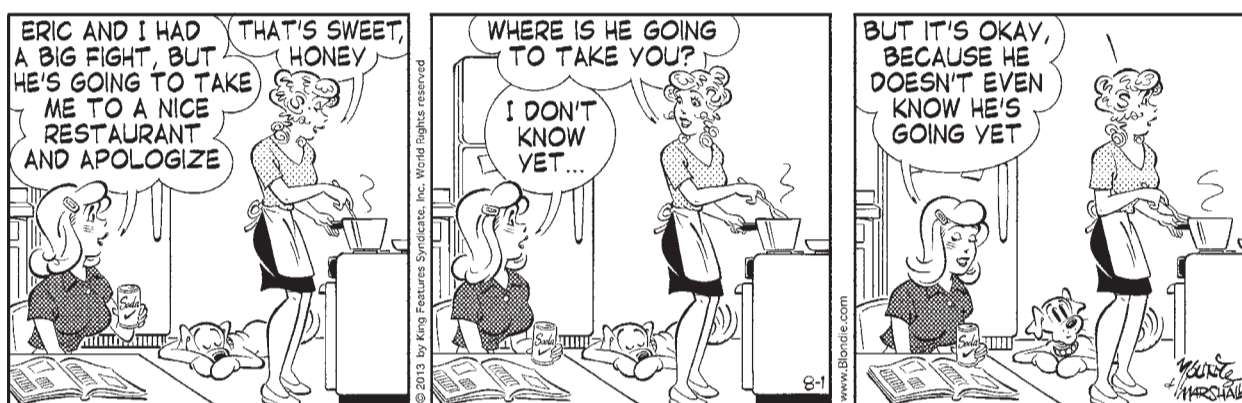
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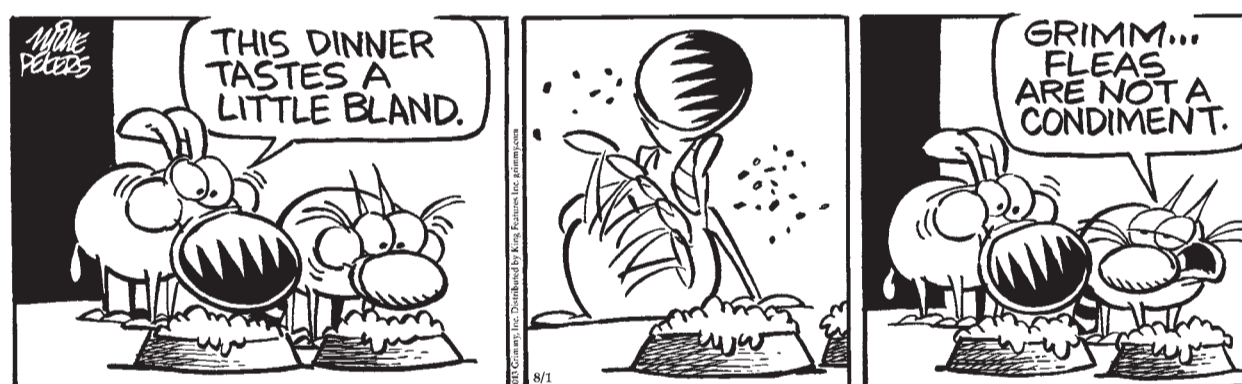
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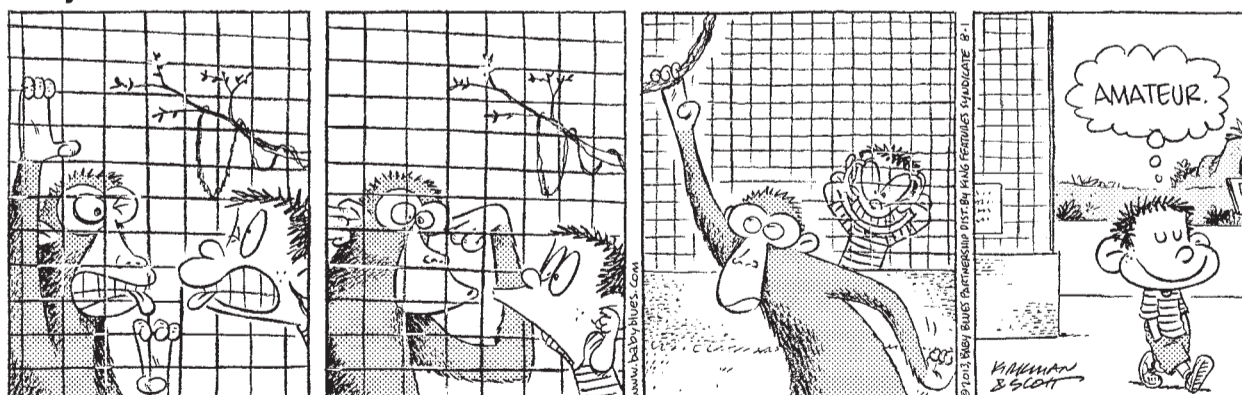
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			2			6	
		9		1			
	3	5					2
	4			3		2	7
6	5	7				1	
3						5	8
			1			9	
	1				8		

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/01

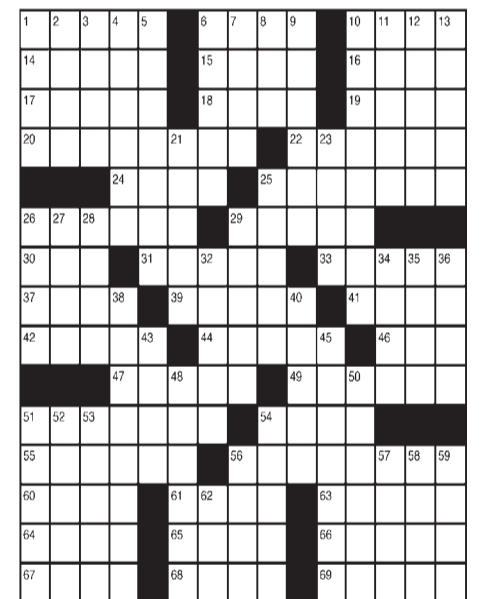
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	6	2	7	4	3	9	1	5
5	9	3	2	8	1	4	7	6
7	4	1	9	6	5	3	2	8
4	3	5	1	7	6	8	9	2
2	7	8	3	5	9	1	6	4
6	1	9	8	2	4	5	3	7
9	2	4	6	3	8	7	5	1
1	8	6	5	9	7	2	4	3
3	5	7	4	1	2	6	8	9

ACROSS

- 1 "The Mamas and the Pappas"
- 6 Article; thing
- 10 Purina Dog Chow
- 14 Oneself; put forth effort
- 15 Grain storage tower
- 16 Hearty; robust
- 17 Remembered Texas mission
- 18 Luau garlands
- 19 Actor Alan
- 20 Replied sharply
- 22 Case for an archer's arrows
- 24 Public uprising
- 25 Marathon participants
- 26 Attorney
- 29 Early beginnings
- 30 Run up a tab
- 31 Seasons at the table
- 33 Desert refuge
- 37 Fix
- 39 Late Ledger
- 41 Do an electrician's job
- 42 Up and about
- 44 Actor Buddy
- 46 Spinning toy
- 47 Away; dismisses
- 49 Mourn
- 51 Thank you, in Spain
- 54 Actress Tierney
- 55 PG-13 or R, for example
- 56 Iced rolls; breakfast treats
- 60 Resting upon
- 61 Monster; large lizard
- 63 Silly
- 64 Invoice
- 65 Biblical garden
- 66 Privileged class
- 67 Shoe bottom
- 68 Loony
- 69 Conference of bishops
- DOWN
- 1 Juicy fruit



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/1/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

ASA	APACE	ARMS
PAPA	DALES	SEEP
EVEN	DIDNT	WEAR
EXONERATE	IDLY	
MARS	EAR	
STRAPS	SAMPLING	
CHILE	LAGER	SIR
RELY	CAGED	FLEE
ARE	FRIES	PIECE
PEDDLERS	CUSSED	
RYE	RICH	
LIMA	PANICKING	
OREM	ERASE	NOON
NANA	REPEL	GATE
ENDS	SASSY	HOW

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8/1/13

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 38 Loyal follower | 53 Lagoon island |
| 40 Hayes or Hunt | 54 Goliath, e.g. |
| 43 Harness strap | 56 Treble |
| 45 Female goats | musical symbol |
| 48 Scolded | 57 Primary |
| 50 In a cruel way | 58 Climb |
| 51 Snatches | mount |
| 52 Numerical proportion | 59 Have to have |
| | 62 Actress Lupino |

Coffee shops can roast beans, brew new ideas

OLIVER STRAND

© 2013 New York Times

NEW YORK - Usually, a coffee roaster starts small. Whether it's with an industry giant like Starbucks, or a cult company like Heart Roasters, the trajectory is the same: the roasting grows at the same pace as the company.

By this standard, Joe and Ninth Street Espresso are doing it backward. The companies, which have devoted followings, are two of the most important players in New York's independent coffee scene. Joe has 10 locations (including two in Philadelphia); Ninth Street Espresso has four.

But neither roasted its own beans, choosing instead to supply the shops over the years with roasts from innovators like Counter Culture Coffee, Intelligentsia Coffee and Stumptown Coffee Roasters.

As of this month, that has changed. Both Joe and Ninth Street Espresso have joined the Pulley Collective, a new coffee-roasting plant on the Brooklyn waterfront that members rent out by the half-day. It is less like a community kitchen or a woodworking cooperative than the Electric Lady Studios of coffee: a tricked-out operation that takes care of all the details. The Pulley Collective is on the ground floor of a 19th-century warehouse in Red Hook, in a 6,500-square-foot space that looks as if it could be a nightclub or a beer hall. There are two coffee roasters, a vintage Deidrich with a cast-iron drum and a new Loring SmartRoast, a technologically advanced roaster with a list price of \$135,000. There is a quality-control laboratory and a cupping area. A shipping container inside the warehouse is being converted into a barista classroom.

It's a response to loftier expectations. Not long ago, it was exciting to find a well-made espresso in New York; today, demanding customers want to taste something unique. According to Jonathan Rubinstein, it's no longer enough to order from the

catalog of an established roaster and use the same coffee that everybody else buys. By roasting, Joe, Ninth Street Espresso and the other Pulley Collective members can take control of another link in the coffee-supply chain.

Joe is now buying green coffee beans directly from importers and, in some cases, farmers. Ed Kaufmann, the head roaster for Joe, expects to go through more than 225,000 pounds of green coffee in the next 12 months. It's a fraction of the 2.7 million pounds that Intelligentsia roasts, and a rounding error for the industrial roasters that go through hundreds of millions of pounds a year, but it's an impressive debut.

For Ninth Street Espresso and Joe, the Pulley Collective is a scaled-up roaster without any of the logistical headaches that would

come with opening such a space in New York. They didn't have to secure the site, hire a contractor or worry about the duct work. For Dillon Edwards, who opened Parlor Coffee last year, the allure of the Pulley Collective is the affordable price. Parlor Coffee might be the smallest espresso bar in New York. Located inside Persons of Interest, a barbershop in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, the espresso machine shares a back room with a display of hair-care products.

Originally a barista for Stumptown Coffee Roasters in Portland, Ore., Edwards moved to New York to help open the company's coffee bar at the Ace Hotel. He went to Bonanza Coffee Roasters in Berlin before returning to New York to work at Blue Bottle Coffee, where he became the lead barista. □

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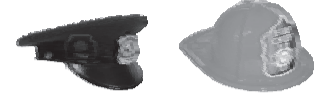
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This Aug. 29, 2008 file photo shows a yellow-cheeked crested gibbon sitting in a cage at Cambodia's Phnom Tamau Zoo in Takeo province, south of Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Associated Press

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Only a few species of mammals are monogamous, and now dueling scientific teams think they have figured out why they got that way. But their answers are not exactly romantic.

The answers are not even the same.

One team looked just at primates, the animal group that includes apes and monkeys.

The researchers said the exclusive pairing of a male and a female evolved as a way to let fathers defend their young against being killed by other males.

The other scientific team got a different answer after examining about 2,000 species of non-human mammals.

They concluded that mammals became monogamous because females had spread out geographically, and so males had to stick close by to fend off the competition.

So it is not about romance, said researcher Dieter Lukas of the University of Cambridge, lead author of the mammals study. "It's just really the best he can do."

The differing conclusions

apparently arose because the two teams used different methods and sample sizes, the researchers said.

But both teams discounted a long-standing explanation for monogamy, that it provides two parents rather than one for rearing offspring. That's just a side benefit, they said.

"Romance obviously came after" monogamy, said Christopher "Kit" Opie, an anthropology researcher at the University College London, who was the lead author of the primate study. The studies are published online Monday in the journals *Science* and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The mammal paper in *Science* excluded humans while the primate analysis in *PNAS* counted people both as monogamous and not, because that differs around the world.

Researchers said they hesitated to apply their conclusions to humans, and they acknowledged that their results aren't exactly the stuff of Valentine's Day. Less than 9 percent of mammal species pair up socially.

Among primates, about 25 percent of the species are socially monogamous,

Monogamy may sound sweet, but why it evolved isn't



This Feb. 19, 2013 file photo shows a chimp gathering food at Chimp Haven in Keithville, La.

Associated Press

Opie said. Some, like gibbons, are highly monogamous while others, like chimps, are on the other end of the spectrum, Opie said.

Opie drew on data about how 230 primate species behave, and he mapped out evolutionary family trees for them. Then, using more than 10,000 computer model runs and calculating the same mathematical probability system that famed prognosticator and statistician Nate Silver employs, Opie came up with a timeline for when certain traits developed, he said.

His result: Before any of the social traits associated with monogamy appeared, Opie saw signs of high rates of outside males killing babies. In primates that developed monogamy, such pairing up appeared to develop only later, he said. Why? Because primates

breast-feed their offspring for a long time, even for years, and competing males kill off infants if the dad doesn't stick around to fight them off.

But Tim Clutton-Brock, a zoology professor who wrote the all-mammal study in *Science* with Lukas, said their research saw absolutely no evidence of infanticide spiking before monogamy. Instead, Clutton-Brock and Lukas found that in nearly every case, solitary females came before social monogamy.

Those females had spread out to monopolize food like fruit that was of better quality but harder to find. That made it harder for males to keep other males from inseminating the females, Lukas said.

"Males cannot successfully defend more than one female," Lukas said.

So they stick around and

monogamy occurs.

Frans de Waal of Emory University, who was not part of either team, said he thought the Opie infanticide paper offered quantifiable support for that theory, but he wasn't sold completely.

Another independent expert, Sue Carter of the University of Illinois at Chicago, looks at the biochemistry of monogamy in individual species, zeroing in on two hormones.

And those hormones "are associated with protection, defensive behavior," so they could fit with either conclusion, she said.

Both teams did agree that they would not quite put humans in the monogamous category.

Clutton-Brock said his study found species that are monogamous have fewer physical differences between the genders. □

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Kids' network launches online hunt for host

NEW YORK (AP) — If you want to speak to thousands of preschoolers in the morning without worrying about fixing breakfast or calming tantrums, the Sprout TV network is offering an opportunity.

The cable network that tries to reach young children launched an online search Tuesday for someone to help host "The Sunny Side Up Show," their three-hour morning show. Aspiring TV hosts are asked to submit a 60-second audition video and send it to Sprout's website, and the network will post some of the best on its YouTube channel.

Three finalists will be chosen to audition with Chica, its chicken character, in front

of show producers September in Philadelphia, Sprout said. Sprout, which is aimed at youngsters aged 2 to 5, is in about half of the nation's homes with televisions.

One requirement: Prospective hosts will have to sing Sprout's "Happy Birthday Song" as part of their audition.

"Our hosts tend to be very vibrant, very engaging," said Sandy Wax, network president.

The show, which mixes skits along with pre-recorded portions of favorites like "Barney & Friends," has four hosts: Carly Ciarrochi, Dennisha Pratt, Kelly Vrooman and Sean Roach. The new host will replace Vrooman, who is leaving. □

Miley Cyrus says wild-child behavior part of growing up

ADAM EGAN
Associated Press
LONDON (AP) — Miley Cyrus' transformation from a sweet-faced child star into a twerking, wild-child sensation has garnered plenty of debate, but she says it's not really all that deep — she just grew up, y'all.

"I think people forget what it feels like to be 20," she said in a recent interview. "People just evolve and that's all that's happened to me. But people think a mad scientist somehow cooked up this potion and turned me in to a different human, which it wasn't. All I did was get a haircut and buy some clothes and everyone thinks that I am made into a robot that changes with what's popular every 10 years." Cyrus has raised eye-



This July 22, 2013 file photo shows actress-singer Miley Cyrus winking during an interview at a radio station in Bad Vilbel near Frankfurt, central Germany.

Associated Press

brows as she continues to distance herself from her former life as the star of the Disney show "Hannah Montana." Now engaged to actor Liam Hemsworth, Cyrus is concentrating on her musical career and due to release an album in the fall.

Cyrus has one of the summer's biggest hits with "We Can't Stop"; it's now No. 2 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart. In the song's video, which has reached 100 million views on YouTube, Cyrus dances suggestively amid bizarre imagery, including a skull made of french fries.

Cyrus says the video was inspired by her own life and the wild parties she's been at.

Besides, Cyrus says acting a little crazy can actually be good for the soul.

"That's why I think some people kind of fall off and they end up going crazy because you don't give yourself time to go crazy," she said. "That's what you're supposed to do; you are 20, you are supposed to be a mess because you haven't figured it out yet, and 10 years from now I am supposed to have it all together." □

Actress Eileen Brennan dies



This Nov. 7, 1983 file photo shows actress Eileen Brennan, star of "Private Benjamin" in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

DERRIK J. LANG
AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eileen Brennan, who played the captain in "Private Benjamin," has died at 80.

Kim Vasilakis, an assistant to Brennan's managers, says Brennan died Sunday in California after a battle with bladder cancer. Brennan got her first big role on the New York stage in the musical comedy "Little Mary Sunshine." It won her the 1960 Obie award for best actress. She went on to win fans for her sharp-tongued roles on television and in movies, including Army Capt. Doreen Lewis in 1980's "Private Benjamin," aloof Mrs. Peacock in 1985's "Clue," and mean orphanage superintendent Miss Bannister in 1988's "The New Adventures of Pippi Longstocking."

"Private Benjamin" brought her a supporting actress nomination for an Oscar. She won an Emmy for repeating her "Private Benjamin" role in the TV version.

She was nominated six other times for guest roles on such shows as "Newhart," "thirtysomething," "Taxi" and "Will & Grace." □

Handwritten poem by Poe sells for \$300K

MARION, Massachusetts (AP) — An original manuscript of a poem written by Edgar Allan Poe has sold for \$300,000 at an auction in Massachusetts. The Standard Times of New Bedford reports that the handwritten poem with Poe's signature was purchased Saturday in Marion, about 50 miles south of Boston, by a collector who was given 10 days to verify its authenticity. The item had been owned

by a Rhode Island family since the 1920s.

The poem, "The Conqueror Worm," is believed to have been written in the 1830s and is among more than 100 published by the author.

Chris Semtner, curator at the Edgar Allan Poe Museum in Richmond, Va., says the original manuscript was thought to have been lost. Auctioneers had expected the item to fetch no more than \$20,000. □



Arsenio Hall ready to chat his way back to top

BETH HARRIS

Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Arsenio Hall is eager to get back in the late-night television talk show game, minus the big hair and shoulder pads that marked his initial foray nearly 20 years ago.

Joking to the Television Critics Association on Monday that he's "been away making turkey bacon," Hall said the challenges are much bigger now than when he was a pop-culture tastemaker on his old show that ran from 1989-94.

Back then, there were fewer channels and Johnny Carson was the dominant late-night host on "The Tonight Show."

"It's a huge challenge this time to bring people to the television," Hall said. "Your biggest fan doesn't watch you every night. You hope to get a guy three nights to check you out, the other nights they'll be catching someone else."

He offered few details on the format and style of the new "Arsenio Hall Show" other than the old theme song is coming back with a new bit of music that Hall wrote added to it.

Hall said no guests have yet been booked for the syndicated show debuting Sept. 9. More than 200



Arsenio Hall participates in "The Arsenio Hall Show" panel at the CBS Summer TCA on Monday, July 29, 2013, at the Beverly Hilton hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

outlets have signed up to carry it.

Soon-to-be rivals Jay Leno and Jimmy Kimmel have reached out to Hall. Leno offered the phone numbers of the best writers on his staff who were forced out during layoffs, while

Kimmel wrote a check to support Hall's charity when he won "Celebrity Apprentice" last year.

"Maybe they're setting me up to knock me out," he said, "but the bottom line is everybody is being real nice to me." □

Mercury-Jackson 1983 duets could get release

LONDON (AP) — Queen guitarist Brian May says he's working to complete duets recorded 30 years ago by the band's late frontman Freddie Mercury and Michael Jackson.

May wrote on his blog this month that he was working on the tapes with producer William Orbit. He said the project was "exciting, challenging, emotionally taxing. But cool."

Mercury and Jackson recorded together at Jack-

son's California home in 1983, but the material was not released.

May said in 2011 that he had been given permission by the Jackson estate to release the recordings. This month he wrote that "we will have something for folks to hear in a couple of months' time, hopefully."

A spokesman for the band declined to provide further information Tuesday.

Mercury died in 1991 and Jackson in 2009. □



In this Dec. 8, 1996 file photo, Michael Jackson belts out a song during the first concert of his 2-days concert tour in Manila, dubbed as H1Story World tour.

Associated Press



This publicity photo released by Fox Searchlight shows Julia Louis-Dreyfus, right, and James Gandolfini together in a scene from the film, "Enough Said."

Associated Press

Louis-Dreyfus praises Gandolfini's final film role

RYAN PEARSON

AP Entertainment Writer

SANTA MONICA, California

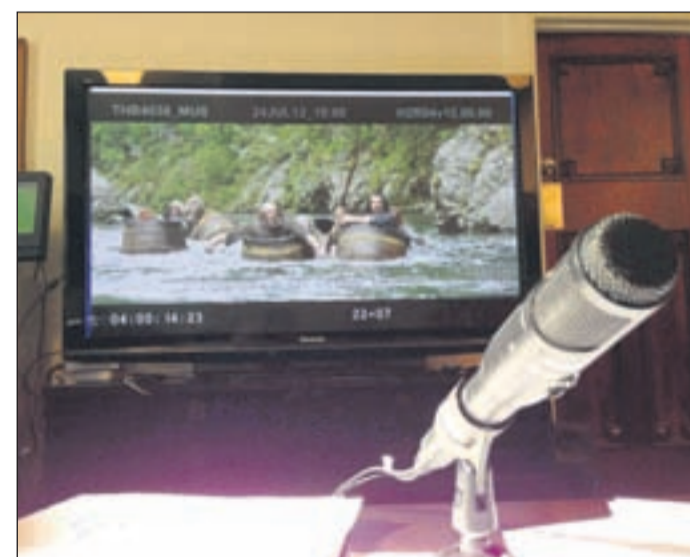
(AP) — Julia Louis-Dreyfus says audiences will "really freak out" over James Gandolfini's performance in his final film.

Gandolfini plays her character's love interest in Nicole Holofcener's "Enough Said," set for release in September. The actress, who is promoting her role in Disney's "Planes," says she

worked "intimately" with Gandolfini on the shoot just months before he died.

Gandolfini died in June of a heart attack at age 51 while vacationing in Italy. Louis-Dreyfus says it was a "dreamy experience" to act alongside him, adding that his character has no trace of Tony Soprano-style darkness.

The romantic comedy will premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in September. □



In this Wednesday, July 24, 2013 photo taken and released by Peter Jackson, a monitor screen shows a scene at a sound studio on one of the final days of shooting 'The Hobbit' in Wellington, New Zealand. Associated Press

Jackson concludes 'Hobbit' filming in New Zealand

SYDNEY (AP) — Peter Jackson has wrapped up filming "The Hobbit" trilogy and shared pictures of his last day on the set with his Facebook fans. The New Zealand filmmaker provided a steady stream of updates and photos from the set of the final film, "The Hobbit: There And Back Again," on Friday. The second film, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug," will be released in December, and the finale appears in 2014. □

Carving Up The Country



CHARLES M. BLOW
© 2013 New York Times

Our 50 states seem to be united in name only.

In fact, we seem to be increasingly becoming two countries under one flag: Liberal Land - coastal, urban and multicultural - separated by Conservative Country - Southern and Western, rural and racially homogeneous. (Other parts of the country are a bit of a mixed bag.) This has led to incredible and disturbing concentrations of power.

As The New York Times reported after the election in November, more than two-thirds of the states are now under single-party control, meaning that one party has control of the governor's office and has majorities in both legislative chambers.

This is the highest level of such control since 1952. And Republicans have single-party control in nearly twice as many states as Democrats.

This is having very real consequences on the ground, nowhere more clearly than on the subjects of voting rights and women's reproductive rights.

Almost all jurisdictions covered by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 - the section that requires federal approval for any change in voting procedures and that the Supreme Court effectively voided last month - are in Republican-controlled states. So many of those states have wasted no time following the court ruling to institute efforts to suppress the vote in the next election and beyond.

Within two hours of the Supreme Court ruling, Texas announced that a voter identification law that the Justice Department had blocked for two years because "Hispanic registered voters are more than twice as likely as non-Hispanic registered voters to lack such identification," would go into effect, along with a redistricting map passed in 2011 but blocked by a federal court.

The department is trying to prevent those actions in Texas, but it's unclear whether the state or the feds will prevail.

Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina have also moved forward with voter ID bills that had passed but were being held up by the Justice Department. (Virginia has passed a bill that's scheduled to go into effect next year.)

And Wednesday, a federal

court gave Florida the go-ahead to resume its controversial voter purge by dismissing a case filed against the state that had been rendered moot by the Supreme Court decision.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is not surprised by this flurry. She voted with the minority on the Voting Rights Act case, and she wrote in a strongly worded dissent: "The sad irony of today's decision lies in its utter failure to grasp why the VRA has proved effective. The Court appears to believe that the VRA's success in eliminating the specific devices extant in 1965 means that preclearance is no longer needed."

She continued, "With that belief, and the argument derived from it, history repeats itself."

History does appear to be doing just that. In an interview this week with The Associated Press, Ginsburg reiterated her displeasure with the court's decision and her lack of surprise at what it has wrought, saying, "And one really could have predicted what was going to happen." She added, "I didn't want to be right, but sadly I am."

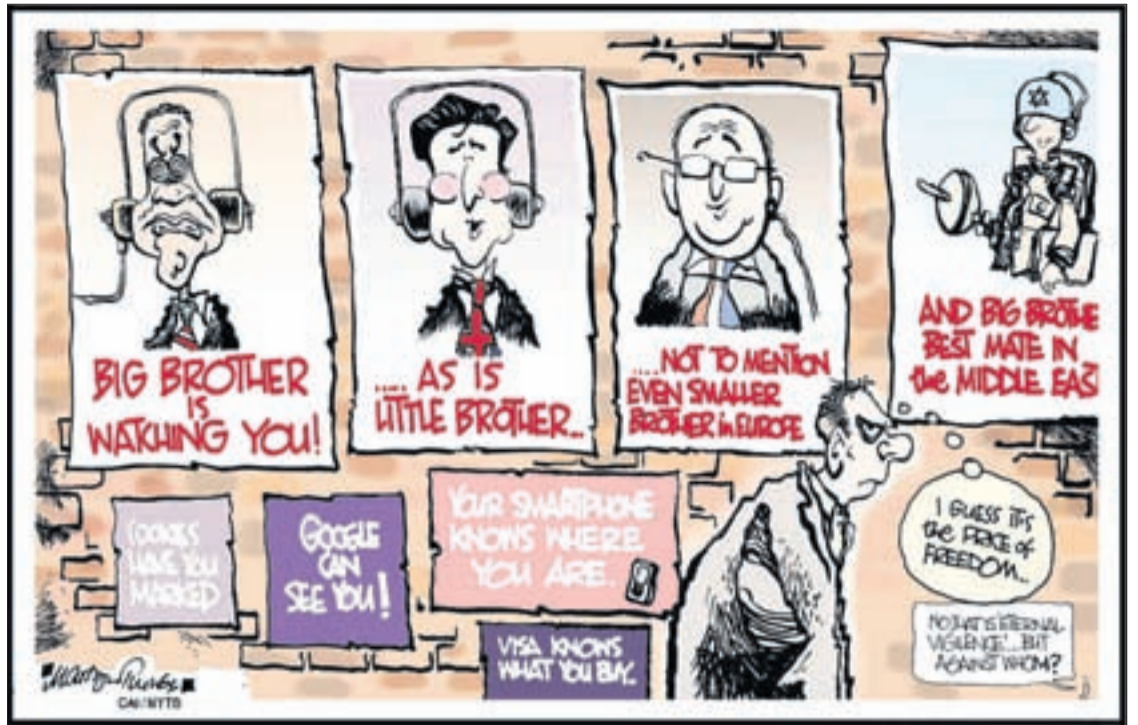
While Republicans may claim that voter ID laws are about the sanctity of the vote, Republican power brokers know they're about much more: suppressing the votes of people likely to vote Democratic.

Last week Rob Gleason, the Pennsylvania Republican Party chairman, discussed the effects of his state's voter ID laws on last year's presidential elections, acknowledging to the Pennsylvania Cable Network: "We probably had a better election. Think about this: We cut Obama by 5 percent, which was big. A lot of people lost sight of that. He won - he beat McCain by 10 percent; he only beat Romney by 5 percent. I think that probably voter ID helped a bit in that."

And on women's reproductive rights, as the Guttmacher Institute reported this month, "In the first six months of 2013, states enacted 106 provisions related to reproductive health and rights." The report continued, "Although initial momentum behind banning abortion early in pregnancy appears to have waned, states nonetheless adopted 43 restrictions on access to abortion, the second-highest number ever at the midyear mark and is as many as were enacted in all of 2012."

A substantial majority of the new restrictive legislations - which include bans on abortion outside incredibly restrictive time frames (at six weeks after the woman's last period in North Dakota), burdensome regulations on abortion clinics and providers and forced ultrasounds - were enacted in states with Republican-controlled legislatures.

These are just two issues among many in which the cleaving of this country is becoming an incontrovertible fact, as we drift back toward bifurcation. □



Time To Delete Carlos Danger



MAUREEN DOWD
© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON - When you puzzle over why the elegant Huma Abedin is propping up the eel-like Anthony Weiner, you must remember one thing: Huma was raised in Saudi Arabia, where women are treated worse by men than anywhere else on the planet.

Comparatively speaking, the pol from Queens probably seems like a prince. Even though he's a punk. After he got caught sexting and flashing women online in 2011, he promised to "never, ever" do that to his family again and slouched away from Congress. He cyber-creeped other young women in a pervy bout of tweet du seigneur as his wife traveled the world with Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state.

Yet, while married to the classy, gorgeous mother of his infant son and planning a redemptive run for mayor, he told a Facebook friend and phone-sex partner he had never met that he loved her. Then he told her to "hard-delete" all their correspondence - if that is what you call it.

Aside from his zany Zorro-like nom de porn, Carlos Danger, Weiner has been called many things. His digital girlfriend and fellow extreme exhibitionist, Sydney Leathers (whose name sounds like a nom de porn), said that Weiner described himself to her accurately as "an argumentative, perpetually horny middle-aged man." But Weiner's Goya-

esque grotesquerie earns him another name: the "Rosemary's Baby" of the Clintons.

Bill and Hillary Clinton transformed the way we look at sex scandals. They plowed through the ridicule, refused to slink away in shame like Gary Hart, said it was old news, and argued that if Hillary didn't object, why should voters?

Poppy Bush thought Americans would reject Bill Clinton in 1992 because of his lascivious ways, but he learned that voters are more concerned with how their own lives will be changed than they are with politicians' duplicitous private lives.

Americans keep moving the marker of acceptable behavior, partly as a reflection of the coarsening of society and partly as a public acknowledgment that many pols with complicated personal lives have been good public servants.

Now, defining deviancy downward, Señor and Señora Danger are using the Clinton playbook. The difference is, there's nothing in Weiner's public life that is redeeming. In 12 years in Congress, he managed to get only one minor bill passed, on behalf of a donor, and he doesn't work well with people. He knows how to be loud on cable and wave his Zorro sword in our faces.

Some sex scandals, like Mark Sanford's, fall into the realm of flawed human nature, and some, like Weiner's, fall into the realm of "Seriously, what is wrong with you?"

Huma gained renown, movie star suitors and a Vogue spread as the stylish Muslim Garbo silently and efficiently parting the waves for Hillary. She had to be resilient to work her way up from intern to consigliere in tough Hillaryworld, and she saw firsthand how the Clintons beat back foes. They love Huma, but the Clintons, now showcasing philanthropy and public service preparatory to Hillary's 2016 run, are not happy about getting dragged into the lewd spectacle that is a low-budget movie version of their masterpiece.

The former president is distancing himself, one associate said, noting, "He's not getting anywhere near that grenade."

Huma's friends are "slapping-my-forehead astounded," as one put it, that Weiner would get in the race knowing the online land mines that would rock Huma's world again and torpedo the campaign.

Weiner wooed Huma assiduously, showing up at the Westchester airport in the wee hours to pick her up when she came back from trips with Hillary. "They were two hyperdrive young brains that just clicked," said a friend. "She liked his Borscht Belt humor."

Her circle understands that "you love who you love," as one put it, marveling at Weiner's "madonna-whore" complex played out online. But that doesn't mean that you ask people to vote for someone who's dreadfully flawed for a major office, just because you love him.

They are worried that Huma's decision to vouch for her husband is starting to hurt her, the one person they all assumed would never be ensnared in anything weird or bad. "The hard stink of this one is going to get on everyone involved," said one friend.

Another agreed: "As soon as she stood up to say those words she changed herself from a sophisticated, mysterious guiding intelligence and beauty next to Hillary Clinton to the wife of a tarnished Anthony Weiner."

They fear Huma learned the wrong lesson from Hillary, given that Bill was a roguish genius while Weiner's a creepy loser.

"Bill Clinton was the greatest political and policy mind of a generation," said one. "Anthony is behaving similarly without the chops or résumé."

As often as Bill apologized, he didn't promise he would "never, ever" do it again, as Weiner did. "What people won't forgive is lying in the apology," said the Clinton pal. "It has to be sincere, and it sure as hell has to be accurate." □

Culinary Tour Guides: Follow Them To The Food

JEFF GORDINIER

© 2013 New York Times

You know it's there. You've seen it on TV. You've devoured a few blog posts about it.

Maybe it's that spot in Rome where clandestine tables are set up in an alley and a neighborhood feast comes together beneath the honeyed glow of street lamps. Maybe it's that tiny shop in a parking lot in Penang that sells the sublime coconut tarts, or the unglamorous strip mall in Los Angeles where Anthony Bourdain once sweated over a bowl of spicy Thai boat noodles.

If there's one thing you've learned from watching all those shows with Bourdain, the voracious world traveler, it's that these out-of-the-way treasures do exist. You, too, can eat there.

The only catch? You may need a little help.

It's that line of thinking that explains the rise, over the last few years, of a new kind of travel specialist - so new, in fact, that they haven't coined a name for the job. For now, let's call them the food sherpas.

Just as a traditional Sherpa helps a mountain climber navigate the stresses and mysteries of a Himalayan peak, a food sherpa is a local expert who brings a hungry traveler to pockets of the culinary landscape that may otherwise seem out of reach.

You'll find them in Paris and Barcelona, in Malaysia and Mexico. But don't go looking for a long, tortoise-paced phalanx of tourists in white sneakers trailing behind a guide who's waving a flag and barking memorized data through a megaphone. Food sherpas pride themselves in offering something different: an experience that gives small groups of visitors (sometimes as few as two, and rarely more than 12) an intimate encounter with what's off the eaten path. "I usually don't like tours," said Lisa Rogovin, the entrepreneur behind a company called Edible Excursions, which oversees 25 to 40 deep dives, every

month, into the diverse food scene of the San Francisco Bay Area. "I really need to know that this is going to be real and authentic. I don't want to be on a bus. I don't want to be in a herd of cattle."

That has been Rick Gelbard's goal for decades. "My wife and I had never actually taken a tour," said

emissary to gastronomic gems around the city.

"I just thought, 'Let's try this out,'" Gelbard said.

What followed, once he and his wife landed in Rome, was a day of dining like a Bourdain-in-training: cappuccinos in a coffeehouse that looked as if it hadn't changed since the early 1970s; a sampling of

first-class food sherpa can cost the same as dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant: from \$75 or \$100 a person to as much as \$1,000 for a small group, for what is often a three- or four-hour excursion. (The food tends to be included.) Then there's the inevitable downside of any booming trend: with food tours

by Mouth site, which she founded, has seen "an increase in people who are traveling to eat," she said. "That is as important for them as going to the Eiffel Tower." Skilled food sherpas protect their hungry broods from one of the classic tourist missteps: going to the right place, but ordering the wrong thing.



The Alter family of St. Louis at Forno de Campo de Fiori to buy bread on a private tour with the writer Elizabeth Minchilli, left, in Rome, July 23, 2013. Food tour guides have become popular with travelers who want an experience that gives a small group an intimate encounter with pockets of the culinary landscape that may otherwise seem out of reach.

(Nadia Shira Cohen/The New York Times)

Gelbard, 62, a retired Panavision engineering executive who lives in California. "We have always preferred to travel independently." But while preparing for a trip to Rome and trying to figure out where to eat, he found the ocean of online data to be overwhelming. Before long, he came across a blog called Elizabeth Minchilli in Rome. He learned that Minchilli, a food writer and occasional New York Times contributor who has lived in Italy since 1988 (and who spent some of her childhood there), could be hired as a private

fresh mozzarella and burrata; deep-fried artichokes in a working-class osteria; and trays of delicious cured meats from a deli so nondescript that a casual tourist would probably walk right past it.

"It was a kind of experience you just don't get if you're wandering around by yourself," Gelbard said. "What it felt like is, I met up with an old friend who's been living in Rome for a decade, and she showed us around."

The old-friend treatment isn't cheap. In some cases, enlisting the services of a

cropping up all over, you could pick one led by a local chef, an award-winning cookbook author or an experienced blogger, or you could wind up with some food-truck-savvy charlatan who just moved to town. "You get what you pay for," Rogovin said. "My tours cost more than the other tours, but I hire informed industry insiders to lead them."

Food tours, both the good and the mediocre, are flourishing because food consciousness is, too. Meg Zimbeck, who arranges tours through the Paris

More than anything, these visitors want a guarantee that they aren't going to squander something precious: a great meal in a great city. "It's not just, 'Let me find a good pastry shop,'" said Zimbeck, of Paris by Mouth. "It's 'Which of these hundreds of pastry shops that everyone is writing about is worth my time?' I think people are attracted to tours because a tour focuses like a laser through all that noise and says: 'This is the best.' We've done the work. We've tasted it. We've tested it. We know." □